

Hafa Adai!

PH overseas field voting begins. PAGE 3
Japanese group asking help for quake victims. PAGE 5

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVI, Issue No. 82

www.saipantribune.com

TUESDAY APRIL 26, 2016

www.facebook.com/saipantribune

75¢

IN WAKE OF DPS SEX RING ALLEGATIONS

Torres wants to 'clean house'

» FY'17 budget goes up 10 pct to \$127M

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



The time has come to "clean house," Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said on his first day back in office yesterday after trips to Hawaii and American Samoa.

During his absence, Homeland Security and Emergency Management special assistant and former Department of Public Safety commissioner James Deleon Guerrero was arrested and charged for alleged sexual abuse of a minor.

See TORRES on Page 4

Court orders O gumoro to remain in jail

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman yesterday issued an order denying former Department of Public Safety deputy commissioner Ambrosio T. O gumoro's motion to stay his one-year prison sentence pending the appeal of his conviction.

In a 10-page order, Wiseman ruled that upon review of the parties' briefs, oral arguments, and applicable law,

See COURT on Page 4

INSIDE



ASIA

Last year's massive earthquake in Nepal killed nearly 9,000 people, yet could have been much deadlier.

» PAGE 16



OVERDRIVE

Lincoln got lost in the late 1990s, disappearing beneath the relentless waves of sleek BMWs and Benzes and Audis washing ashore.

» PAGE 18



LIFE & STYLE

Sunshine Café, a project that started almost a year ago in Hong Kong, opened Thursday night giving locals and tourists alike a new place to hang out.

» PAGE 19



SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.



GOT A NEWS TIP?

TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

Local

FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON

From bottom left, 2016 Miss Marianas Teen Contestants Alexandra Lee-Sang, Nicole Q. Myers, Palanga Tiara B. Taimanao, and Jyawanna Joyner. Miss Marianas Contestants, Peachy Josifynn Quitigua, Mariebell Q. Aldan Maricris R. Zapanta, 2015 Miss Marianas 2015 Jian Joyner, Joanna Marie G. Navarro Francine B. Sablan, and Angelyn D. Labadan stand before the pageant's official venue, Fiesta Resort & Spa, during their first press conference last Saturday.



Champion Finance is looking for Dynamic individuals who would like to be a part of our team for the following post.

Loan / Financial Manager

Duties:

- Review loan agreements to ensure that they are complete and accurate according to policy.
- Approve, reject, or coordinate the approval or rejection of lines of credit or commercial, real estate, or personal loans.
- Analyze applicants' financial status, credit, and property evaluations to determine feasibility of granting loans.
- Review collection reports to determine the status of collections and the amounts of outstanding balances.
- Set credit policies, credit lines, procedures and standards in conjunction with senior managers.
- Oversee the flow of cash or financial instruments.
- Prepare financial or regulatory reports required by laws, regulations, or boards of directors.
- Develop or analyze information to assess the current or future financial status of firms.
- Evaluate financial reporting systems, accounting or collection procedures, or investment activities and make recommendations for changes to procedures, operating systems, budgets, or other financial control functions.
- Establish procedures for custody or control of assets, records, loan collateral, or securities to ensure safekeeping.
- Plan, direct, and coordinate risk and insurance programs of establishments to control risks and losses.

Education/Experience:

- Bachelor's Degree in Finance, Business Administration or Accounting and 2 years' experience in Finance will be a plus. Salary will be discussed upon interview.

Interested candidates are requested to submit their resumes or pick up an employment application at

Champion Finance, 3rd floor, Marianas Business Plaza, Suite 316-B
or email championfinancecnmi@gmail.com

Miss Marianas, Miss Marianas Teen candidates introduced

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

For the first time, Miss Marianas and Miss Marianas Teen will be held in one night this year as 10 ladies will vie for two crowns.

To mark its first decade of pageantry, the islands' nonprofit pageant and talent group, Stellar Marianas, combined the two pageants, which is set to happen on July 16 at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa.

"All in all, the CNMI has been in pageantry for over 40 years and Stellar Marianas celebrates 10 years of empowering our young women

and showcasing their incredible beauty, intelligence, talent, and dedication to the world," Stellar Marianas community events director Myla Capilitan said.

"We are super excited to have our Miss Marianas Teen contestants on stage with our Miss Marianas contestants to learn from and support each other. This is a historical moment worthy of two crowns," she added.

This year's pageant theme is Nautical Chic, as a modern celebration of the ocean, its resources and beauty.

"We are people of the ocean and we wanted to capture the majestic influence it has over our lives—the imagery, photos, stage, and show design is going to take your breath away," Capilitan said.

Stellar Marianas has completed its search for eligible candidates and has introduced the candidates.

The 2016 Miss Marianas Teen Pageant contestants are Palanga Tiara B. Taimanao, 16, a junior at Dr. Rita H. Inos Jr Sr. High School and daughter of Elphrain S. and Cecile Blas Taimanao; Jyawanna Joyner, 16, a sophomore at Saipan Southern High School and her guardian is Aurelia Kretzer; Nicole Q. Myers, 16, a sophomore at Marianas High School and daughter of Regino M. and Candace Q. Celis; and Alexandra L. Lee-Sang, 16, a junior at Saipan International School and daughter of David Lee-Sang and Wendi Herring.

The 2016 Miss Marianas contestants are Angelyn D. Labadan, 18, a freshman at Northern Marianas College majoring in Liberal Arts, daughter of Willy Labadan and Asun Demapan; Maricris R. Zapanta, 23, a sophomore

at Northern Marianas College as well as a security officer at Best Sunshine Live, daughter of Jerry and Cristeta Zapanta; Mariebell Q. Aldan, 19, graduate of Saipan Southern High School and a games table dealer at Best Sunshine Live, daughter of Leonardo Soriano and Rosario Q. Aldan; Peachy Josifynn Quitigua, 21, a senior at Northern Marianas College, graduating this May with an Associates in Science Nursing, daughter of Rep. Vinson F. Sablan and Roca Q. Sablan; Joanna Marie G. Navarro, 20 years old, senior at Northern Marianas College, graduating this May with a degree in Hospitality Management, daughter of Jonathan Navarro and Marita Bacolot, and; Francine B. Sablan, 20, senior at Northern Marianas College as a Liberal Arts major, also works as a receptionist and dental assistant Dental Care and is the daughter of Franklin and Sandra Sablan.

Jian Joyner, 2015 Miss Marianas, will be crowning the 50th beauty queen to hold the title since the NMI began in pageantry. Preparations have already begun to ensure the historic moment is celebrated.

Stellar Marianas offers an experience beyond pageantry where young women pick up valuable skills such as public speaking, media training, role modeling, current issues, and developing social platforms.

Stellar Marianas is also starting to secure its official major sponsors for the year and welcomes Tresemme' from D&Q International Distributors as the official hair products for the two pageants.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/stellar-marianas or email stellarqueens@gmail.com.

450 WORKER DORMITORY BEDS

AVAILABLE IN AS LITTLE AS 8 WEEKS!

- 5 minutes to Garapan
- Available for min 12 months

- Mess facilities available
- Monthly rent + utilities

For more information email :
phil@investcnmi.com or call 9891606

PH overseas field voting begins



Consul Mark Hamoy of the Philippine Consulate General-Guam and the chair for the Special Ballot Reception and Custody Group explains to Filipino overseas voters how to properly cast their votes at the Saipan field voting, which began yesterday and will last until Thursday at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Filipinos began casting their votes on Saipan as the field voting for the overseas absentee voting began yesterday.

Registered voters came in trickles and were accommodated by batches.

"The turnout is fast paced, the voters arrived in successive waves and we haven't had a break. We haven't been able to keep track of the numbers but we will count the total ballots claimed by overseas voters this evening," said consul Mark Hamoy of the Philippine Consulate General-Guam and the chair for the Special Ballot Reception and Custody Group.

Hamoy was deputized by the Philippine Commission on Election to conduct the field voting in Saipan, which will last until April 28 at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

The four-day field voting will be open from 9am to 5pm.

There are about 11,900 registered Filipino voters in the PCG-Guam's jurisdiction, which includes Guam, CNMI, Republic of Palau, Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Marshall Islands

In the CNMI, there are 5,768 registered voters, which is even more than Guam's 3,000-plus voters.

As field voting cannot be conducted in the islands of Tinian and Rota, ballots have been mailed to the registered voters already, which they can submit until May 9.

Before receiving their packets, the field voters are to watch an instructional video on how to fill in the ballots properly and how to seal it in the provided envelope so that it will not be rendered invalid.

The packets contain their ballots, paper seal for the bal-

lot, envelope for the ballot; list of candidates; and instructions for voters. According to Hamoy, they were the ones who sorted and put the packets together.

"If you are not a registered

voter, if you're not appearing anywhere on the certified list of voters, even if we believed you 100 percent that you registered, if you are not on the Comelec list, there's nothing we can do. Only the people on

the list have voting packets," Hamoy said.

Voters had a choice to vote on the spot or take home their ballots to submit at a later date. Most of them opted to take home the ballots.

"That was to be expected because it's a weekday, all the people here have work. I hope that all of them will return it to us before we end our operations here on Thursday. Otherwise they will have to send it to Guam themselves," Hamoy said.

PCG-Guam has in its custody the automated vote counting machine. As the machine itself will not be brought to Saipan, the ballots with the sealed and signed return envelopes will be brought back to Guam where the officers will be the one to feed it to the machine.

"As the SBRG, we will retain custody of the return ballots, bring these back to Guam and then these will be turned over to the Special Board of Election Inspectors. It's a special body deputized by the Comelec, also consulate officials, and they will be the ones who will feed the ballots individually into the vote counting machine," Hamoy said.

Asked how they can guarantee that the ballots will not be tampered with before it gets fed into the machine, Hamoy said he "cannot give that guarantee."

"I personally cannot give

that guarantee, we are just part of the massive system that has been implemented to give out voters abroad the right to vote. Everybody has the duty to be vigilant and make sure they report or at least the deputized officials of our embassies and consulates or deputized Comelec representatives, they can immediately register any complaint that they will have," Hamoy said.

"I can assure you as far as the foreign service posts are concerned, we are trying to implement the mandate that was given to us for this elections in as transparent and as honest and as full integrity as possible," he added.

For those who have yet to vote or claim their ballots must bring with them proper identification document such as valid IDs or their passport.

To ensure that they are qualified to vote, Filipinos are encouraged to check if their names are included in the Certified List of Overseas Voters (CLOV) for GUAM, which can be found in philippines-guam.org or in the COMELEC website http://www.comelec.gov.ph.

SPRING INTO SAVINGS AND A SHOPPING SPREE!

2016 MAZDA3

HATCHBACK

SEDAN

OR AS LOW AS \$142 PER PAYCHECK

\$19,995

YOUR CHOICE!

Customers First

TRIPLE J MOTORS

Beach Road, Chalan LauLau
Open: Mon-Fri: 8am to 6pm • Sat: 8am to 5pm
Tel: 234-7133/234-3051
WWW.CARSSAIPAN.com

Mazda

Like us on facebook.

*On approved credit (OAC). Some conditions apply. Doc fees and registration not included. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Vehicle may not be exactly as shown. See dealer for more details. Maximum credit card payment toward vehicle purchase is \$2,500. While supplies last. Mazda3 Sedan or Hatchback total price is \$19,995 less 20% down payment. Financed at 5.9% APR for 60 monthly payments of \$308.50 or \$142 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred price is \$18,510.00.

Over 2K new water meters arrive

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Over a couple of thousand new water meters arrived for the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. as it continues its effort to address faulty meters on Saipan and hopes to complete installation in the next coming weeks.

According to CUC acting executive director Gary Camacho, the arrival of the 2,300 water meters is part of their "aggressive meter change out program."

"As previously reported there are a lot of issues with a lot of water meters on island and CUC has since implemented an aggressive water meter replacement program to address those meters," Camacho said.

Camacho added that they initiated the program for a couple of weeks now and is a co-joint effort with water division personnel and billing section.

They hope to finish the program in five weeks, after which

"a complete review and assessment will be made to determine how we continue on the program," Camacho said.

"This program that we implemented addresses two issues, one of them is water loss and also, customers can now get an accurate billing of their accounts," Water Division operations supervisor Bernard Kermius said.

Kermius said they have nine teams currently working on the program.

According to water meter supervisor Glenn Dikito, they can change 15 to 18 water meters per crew member per day.

"A meter box if it's clear, it can take anywhere about five to fifteen minutes, whereas if we find a box that's full of mud or dirt, it will be harder for us," Dikito said.

They have so far installed 600 water meters starting from areas where they have 24-hour water service beginning in Koblerville and working their way up to the northern side through San Jose and Gualo Rai.

cepcion concern that property and that defendants have impliedly recognized that the certificate of deposit is property.

Lizama noted that in their motion for removal, defendants stated that Cecilia Flores' "claims arise from traditional banking activities."

The defendants asked the court to dismiss Cecilia Flores' lawsuit against them considering that she already passed away.

MUFG Union Bank, Kato, and Concepcion, through counsels Sean E. Frink and Marcia Schultz, asked the court to deny a motion to substitute the son for Flores in the lawsuit.

Frink and Schultz said the claims of Flores in her lawsuit were extinguished when she passed away.

Frink and Schultz said Flores' complaint alleges two fraud causes of action, both of which are clearly identified by Flores in the complaint as torts.

The lawyers said the CNMI Supreme Court has made clear that tort claims do not survive the death of an alleged tort victim.

When Flores passed away, her counsel, Lizama, filed a notice of death.

Lizama requested the court to substitute Flores' son, Derron, as substitute plaintiff in the complaint.

The Superior Court approved Derron as personal representative and only beneficiary of Flores' estate.

Flores died last Sept. 25. She was the appointed administratrix in the probate of the estate of late former Saipan Mayor Donald Flores.

Dikito said the current meters, the Sensus meters, are expected to last longer.

"The smart meters, they are all metal but these [Sensus] meters its base is plastic now. The tendency of the smart meter, it will leak from the base where there are four bolts, it will leak between the gaskets or the metal itself gets eaten up because our water we have chlorine. Chlorine and the

type of metal which is brass do not get along," Dikito said.

"We haven't had major problems with these," he added.

According to accounts and financial manager Betty Terlaje, CUC has over 9,000 active water accounts on Saipan.

Based on active accounts and what is seen in the billing system, about 4,000 accounts were reported to have malfunctioning meters to U.S.

Environmental Protection Agency last year.

This number went down to around 2,100 last month and it continues to go down as CUC continues to install new meters.

"The delay in the progress is really the delay in the receiving of the meters. Now that we have 2,000 meters, that number can easily be washed out," Terlaje said.

However, Dikito said they

might need to change more meters on island and eventually replace the older ones that are prone to malfunctioning. Terlaje noted that new accounts are being added as well.

"I assume that there will be more because of the older meters that are malfunctioning out there," Dikito said.

CUC said they will order more meters as their inventory goes down.

"It's going to be a lot of trial and error...but we are going to give that commitment," he said.

Asked for the status of funding for the utilities, the hospital, and the public school system, Torres said they continue to work on this in the budget.

"Supposedly there is a letter from the Public School System that I haven't seen. But those are the numbers that we are going to address that by Wednesday," Torres said.

Torres yesterday also finally shed light on the issue with a reported blackout of communications with Pagan.

Officials had been silent up to yesterday about what caused the communications blackout last week but Torres disclosed that an "issue had transpired" between the four individuals on the island.

"One has threatened the lives of the other three," Torres said.

"So we had to [deploy] our enforcement agency to stabilize the situation. And I believe they brought back two or three to make sure that it is safe."

Torres also confirmed a report that this situation had to do with impacting the island's communication system.

"That's what I heard too," Torres said. "...We are going to do another assessment today. We will be getting an update of what we have and will be making further decisions on how to approach the Pagan issue."

evidence, the court cannot be persuaded that the issue is a substantial question of fact or that defendant is likely to obtain a reversal or an order for new trial on this issue," he said.

On the issue that the government cannot prove the elements of the crime beyond a reasonable doubt, Wiseman said he does not find that Oguimoro met his burden to show that the issue meets the "substantial question of law" requirement.

Wiseman said he has relied on case law in this matter that supports the proposition that a person may not contemporaneously refuse to give a court summons its legal effect, even if the document is later found to be invalid.

The judge said while Oguimoro points to the plain language of the statute, he has not offered case law or policy arguments to support any contrary position.

TORRES

From Page 1

Acting governor Victor Hocog immediately placed Deleon Guerrero on preventive suspension without pay.

Torres told reporters repeatedly yesterday that his administration would "move forward," when asked about the allegations against the former police chief, who has allegedly confessed, along with another DPS officer, to the FBI of having sex with a 15-year-old girl on the bed of a police pickup truck.

Torres said Deleon Guerrero has sent in his resignation letter.

"Of course, I am going to accept it," Torres said, when asked. "This administration will not tolerate any such actions. Again, they are innocent until proven guilty but we need to move forward knowing that we want to clean this administration."

Torres said Cabinet members, lawmakers, and others in the Executive Branch hold ethical obligations to the community. He said his administration would be moving forward in "doing the right things" and working for the betterment of the community, when asked if he had a message to government officials in the wake of the scandal as rumors swirl that the full extent of the scandal would reveal the members

from each branch of government.

COURT

From Page 1

he finds that Oguimoro failed to show that his appeal would raise a substantial question of law or fact likely to result in reversal or in an order for new trial.

With Wiseman's order, it means that the 57-year-old Oguimoro will remain in jail to continue serving his prison term at the Department of Corrections until a further court order.

The former DPS deputy commissioner started serving the prison term last April 13. Oguimoro, though counsel Daniel Guidotti, filed the motion last April 8 and also filed an amended motion last April 11. Wiseman heard the motion last April 13 and placed it under advisement.

Guidotti argued that the government did not show

ment complicit in it.

"We vow to move forward in that spirit" of bettering the community, Torres said.

"Those that are involved—we know are innocent until proven guilty—but we want to move forward. This administration needs to move forward with the right cabinet...and be strict to that."

At the same time yesterday, Torres revealed that he has pinned this Wednesday as his target date to submit a budget to the Legislature for fiscal year 2017.

Torres says the budget will be at \$127 million—minus earmarks—or \$15 million more, or a 10-percent increase from last year, for lawmakers to deliberate on.

"Today is a very busy day for me and tomorrow. We are going to finalize and hopefully we are going to turn in the budget by Wednesday. That's my goal."

Torres disclosed he still has changes to make that he would discuss with the Office of Management and Budget that center on his priorities of funding law enforcement agencies in wake of the federal court ruling that struck down the ban on hand guns.

"We need to restructure some of the current budget to address DPS safety and all the other law enforcement agencies," Torres said.

Torres, when asked to share his thoughts on the projected

enough evidence to prove an element of felony theft of services and conspiracy to commit theft of services.

Guidotti also asserted that the government did not show enough evidence to prove that Office of the Public Auditor investigator Juanette David-Atalig was a law enforcement officer and that the court should have excluded all evidence of co-conspirator statements.

In addition, Guidotti argued that the court should not have convicted Oguimoro of misconduct in public office, as stated in count 13 of the information because the statute provides that all process should be "issued in accordance with law and the rules of procedure prescribed in accordance with law."

On sufficiency of evidence arguments, Wiseman in the order yesterday said while he did not decide whether Oguimoro's issues were substantial questions of fact, his grounds for relief are nonetheless denied on the merits.

Wiseman said Oguimoro did

not show by affidavit or by citation to the record that he sufficiently preserved his objection for appeal.

Accordingly, Wiseman said, defendant has not shown that his sufficiency of evidence arguments would have been likely to result in reversal or an order for new trial.

"Without proffers of such

Japanese group asks help for quake victims

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Japanese Society of Northern Marianas is asking for the CNMI community's help with their fundraising assistance to help the victims of the 7.0-magnitude earthquake that hit Kumamoto and Oita prefectures last April 16. Kumamoto and Oita are about an hour by plane from Tokyo.

Consul Toshio Matsumura, who replaced Hitoshi Kikuchi early this month, said that although he is new on Saipan it is nice to know that the people are very welcoming and are always ready to lend a helping hand.

"Japan is truly grateful for the letter of support given by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog. We thank the CNMI for their support as we recover from this disaster," said Matsumura.

He added that they are now accepting cash donations, which they would deposit to an account at the Bank of Guam and have it transferred to the city governments of Kumamoto and Oita.

JSNM vice president Hiroko Tenorio said as of the moment they could only accept cash donations since it is still difficult to ship and get the supplies to the site of the earthquake. She added that they have several mem-

bers from Kumamoto City but their families are safe.

"Schools are not yet open in earthquake-hit Kumamoto and Oita. People are still living in shelters since they are still afraid to go back to their homes because of strong aftershocks," said Tenorio.

President Junichi Kitagawa said Japan and the CNMI continue to support each other in times of disaster. "We always cooperate to help each other in times of disaster. We also need the help of all the people from the community."

"We welcome individuals or groups who wanted to help and support us as we raise funds to help our countrymen in need. All money collected here will be sent to Japan to help the families recover from the devastating quake," added Kitagawa.

Japan-Saipan Travel Association president Masaru Sunaga their country and the CNMI share a long history, whether good or bad. "Specially the relationship in the tourism industry. The people of the CNMI always share a good relationship with Japan."

Tenorio said they have already coordinated with the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs to have a tent set up at the Thursday Night Street Market starting on April 28. They are also talking with the Mari-

anas Visitors Authority to have a tent at the Taste of the Marianas.

"The MVA is helping us in asking permit from the park rangers of the American Memorial Park to have a tent set up in the four Saturdays of the Taste of the Marianas," said Tenorio, who added that they would also sell raffle tickets at \$5 each.

For more information, call Kitagawa at 483-642 or JSNM vice president Masaki Inoue at 287-9376 or Tenorio at 483-0614 or email goodcarespn@pticom.com.

SECTION 8 VOUCHER ACCEPTED

TASI HOMES

New 3 bedrooms Units

Now Leasing Starting @ \$695/month

For Inquiries, call 288-7902 or 989-3547



Man allegedly chokes girlfriend for coming home early morning

A man allegedly pushed his girlfriend and choked her when she came home early morning and fell asleep in her car in Susupe on Sunday after drinking with her cousin at a bar.

Steve Mog, 35, was arrested and taken to Superior Court yesterday for bail hearing on charges of assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho imposed a \$1,500 cash bail and set the preliminary hearing for May 2 at 9am.

Assistant public defender Tillman Clark was appointed as counsel for Mog. Assistant attorney general Chester Hinds appeared for the government.

Police Detective Therese S. Kintoki stated in her report that on Sunday at 8:48am, two police officers were dispatched to an apartment complex in Susupe, where a domestic violence was reported.

Kintoki said when the officers arrived, the alleged victim was crying and telling them that Mog pushed and choked her inside their apartment.

Kintoki said according to the alleged victim, she came

home at 2:30am on Sunday from drinking with her cousin at True North Bar in Garapan.

When she knocked on the door of her apartment, no one answered so she proceeded to the house of her uncle in Susupe, where she rested.

She got up before sunrise and knocked again on the door of her apartment. When no one opened, she went back into her car, where she slept until around 9am.

She knocked on the door again and at that time, her son opened. When she later went inside the restroom, Mog followed her and asked where did she go that night.

The girlfriend explained that she went with her cousin at True North Bar. Mog then allegedly started pushing her into the room, but she refused because she knew he would beat her up.

When she tried to get away, Mog allegedly pushed her against the wall and choked her with his two hands. She struggled and ran to the neighbors' house, where she called the police.

Police responded and arrested Mog later that day. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Online and Auto Pay Billing Service

\$5 CREDIT FOR REGISTERING FOR ONLINE BILLING

No lines! Make Payment Online!

Enroll Now and stop receiving paper statements!

Never miss a date! Set-up your Auto-Pay now!

Just sign-up for mybilling!

Go to: mybilling.ite.net

In your web browser go to mybilling.ite.net.
Select Enroll An Account.
Note: You will need your 13 digit account number prior to enrolling. (See your billing statement for the number.)

IT&E Life In Motion
IT&E Online Billing
My Billing Account
Enroll An Account
Enter Account Number
Enter Account Number
Next Step
Your Account Has Been Successfully Enrolled!
IT&E Direct Online Deposit
View Details

You will be taken to a confirmation page once everything is complete. Return to mybilling.ite.net and input your username and password to start managing your account the easy way.

Receive an additional \$5 credit, PLUS double your chances to WIN a Samsung Smart TV when you sign-in to your Online billing account and register for Auto-pay!



Saipan, Hachioji South Rotary strengthen ties

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Rotary Clubs of Saipan hosted a group of 50 members from Tokyo Hachioji South further strengthening their ties. A fellowship was hosted by Rotary Saipan yesterday at the Sand Castle of the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

The Tokyo Hachioji South group also left yesterday but not without giving a going-away gift—a \$2,000 check—presented by president Shinichi Yamaguchi for the Typhoon Soudelor recovery program.

Rotary Saipan president-elect Ivan Ilmov thanked the kind gesture given by Japanese club as they hope to work together in other future projects. Hachioji South has already donated more than \$2,500 last year in the CNMI's Typhoon Soudelor recovery fund.

"This is a fellowship of two clubs with great leaders and members just like two spirits who are good in working together. The money will be used to support the recovery of those who are affected by the typhoon," said Ilmov.

He also thanked Hachioji South for their hospitality and in making sure the



JON PEREZ
Rotary Club of Tokyo Hachioji South president Shinichi Yamaguchi, center, speaks as Rotary Club of Saipan president Curtis Dancoo, left, and president-elect Ivan Ilmov listen in yesterday's fellowship meeting hosted by the Rotary Club of Saipan

trip of Interact members Andrea Camacho and Coleen Triana Duenas a memorable one. Rotary Saipan also hosted Shiori Koiki and Riko Yamamura in the Cultural Exchange Program.

"This a project worked together by both clubs. There's one more program again next year. And we are looking forward for more years of our partnership," said Ilmov.

Yamaguchi also thanked Rotary Saipan for being a hospitable host especially during Saturday's barbecue at Hyatt's beach side, the same day

they arrived after taking the three-hour trip across the Pacific.

Aside from interacting with Rotary Club of Saipan members and discussing the exchange program, Yamaguchi said that having a memorial service for all those who died in the Battle of Saipan during World War II was also the reason for their visit.

Tokyo Hachioji South has two Shinto Buddhist priests as members and they led the memorial service held at the Banzai Cliff last Sunday, which Rotary Saipan president Curtis

Dancoo said was a very solemn and moving ceremony.

Yamaguchi said that Koiki and Yamamura also enjoyed their trip to Saipan and vice versa with Camacho and Duenas. "Our students had a lot of fun and wanted to go back to Saipan and we are glad to hear that Andrea and Coleen also feel the same."

He added that this time they are inviting Rotary Saipan members to make the trip to Japan to join them in celebrating their anniversary on May 25. "Hope to see you soon."

ACS' Ou attends Air Force academy visitation experience

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Agape Christian School senior Owen Ou went on a weeklong trip to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado after being nominated as part of the Falcon Visitation Experience program. The campus visit was from April 20 to 24 and Ou is expected to be back on Saipan today.

Ou is among the privileged few of more than 50 other senior students from all over the U.S. that were invited by the Academy's

Admissions Office, which selects close to 100 applicants, to consider joining the Air Force.

Ou said joining the Air Force was among his plans after graduation aside from going to college where he was accepted to several universities including University of California Davis, UC Irvin, and Purdue University.

He is also eyeing University of California Berkeley where he plans to major in International Relations focusing on Social Science. He

is aiming to have a career in Global Studies and Business Management.

The tuition, however, is forcing Ou to take a different path.

"The tuition is a burden for me. Especially, you need to take a \$50,000 loan per year during your college career. I also applied at [the U.S. Military Academy] West Point," said the 18-year-old Ou,

who will be graduating with a 3.90 grade point average.

Students get to experience the ev-



Ou

ery day life and aspects of a cadet that includes living in the dormitory, attending classes, participating in cadet activities, cheering at an NCAA Division I game, and other activities the Academy is offering.

Ou's trip to Colorado is free with the Academy funding it that includes airplane tickets, lodging, meals, and a shuttle from the Denver International Airport to the USAFA campus.

Admissions Advisors and assigned cadets, ready to answer any questions, acted as escorts to all the participants.

Walls for new Papago Tank completed

The replacement for the former "Super Blue" tank of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. for the Papago reservoir is expected to be completed next month.

The tank is 40 feet in height and 42 feet in diameter. Its walls are completed and work for the roofing will start this week.

The construction for the tank foundation started on the last week of February and is forecasted to finish in May.

The tank is expected to be online in June and will be filled once it is cleaned and disinfected.

This 300,000-gallon pre-stressed reinforced concrete tank replaced the former 500,000-gallon welded steel tank that was dismantled.

The tank will serve Papago, Stanford, upper San Vicente, and Dandan homestead.

The tank is integral with the Dandan tank and is the link between Kagman and the San Vicente and Dandan tank service areas.

It is pivotal to bring water from Kagman to San Vicente and Dandan.

Currently, CUC customers in Papago, San Vicente, and portions of Dandan, As Lito, and Finasisu who would otherwise be served by the Papago reservoir are served by temporary tanks with limited storage to mitigate water service interruptions during the construction of the new tank.

This ongoing project was identified as a critical need for continued reliable water storage in Papago and the neighboring communities.

The \$1.4-million project is funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency through a Safe Drinking Water Act State Revolving Fund grant. (*Frauleine Villanueva-Dizon*)

**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp
Website: http://www.nmhgov.net

INVITATION FOR BID

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2016 • TIME: 10:00 AM

NMHC IFB 2016-010

"PURCHASE OF BRUSH FIRE TRUCK FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF FIRE & EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (DFEMS) - TINIAN"

Bid packets will be available on Friday, April 15, 2016, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays.

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

For more information, contact Ms. Jocelyn C. Seman, Procurement Officer, or Mr. Jacob J. Muna, Planner/Environmental Officer at (670) 234-6866/7689 during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ Edward C. Sablan
Board Chairman
& Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan,
Director
Division of Procurement & Supply

**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp
Website: http://www.nmhgov.net

INVITATION FOR BID

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2016 • TIME: 10:00 AM

NMHC IFB 2016-011

"REHABILITATION OF THE KAGMAN COMMUNITY PARK"

Bid packets will be available on Friday, April 15, 2016, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays.

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 1:00 p.m. on April 28, 2016, at the NMHC Conference Room in Garapan, Saipan, and all interested bidders will be given the opportunity to walk through the proposed project site, familiarize themselves with the required work and ask questions regarding the project. Attendance at this conference and site visit are considered essential to the bidders' understanding of the project elements and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder.

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

For more information, contact Ms. Jocelyn C. Seman, Procurement Officer, or Mr. Jacob J. Muna, Planner/Environmental Officer at (670) 234-6866/7689 during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ Edward C. Sablan
Board Chairman & Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procurement & Supply

**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp
Website: http://www.nmhgov.net

INVITATION FOR BID

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2016 • TIME: 11:00 AM

NMHC IFB 2016-012

"RENOVATION OF KOBLEVILLE FIRE STATION"

Bid packets will be available on Friday, April 15, 2016, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays.

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 10:00 a.m. on April 28, 2016, at the NMHC Conference Room in Garapan, Saipan, and all interested bidders will be given the opportunity to walk through the proposed project site, familiarize themselves with the required work and ask questions regarding the project. Attendance at this conference and site visit are considered essential to the bidders' understanding of the project elements and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder.

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

For more information, contact Ms. Jocelyn C. Seman, Procurement Officer, or Mr. Jacob J. Muna, Planner/Environmental Officer at (670) 234-6866/7689 during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ Edward C. Sablan
Board Chairman & Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procurement & Supply

Marianas chapter of PH youth movement launched

BY FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Marianas Chapter of the National Youth Movement for the West Philippine Sea was launched last Saturday.

Officers of the newly formed local chapter, which includes the CNMI and Guam, took their oath as administered by Dr. Celia Lamkin, founder and global chairperson of the National Youth Movement for the West Philippine Sea and chairperson of the U.S. Pinoys for Good Governance—CNMI, Guam, Hawaii, and American Samoa Chapter.

"The purpose of this national movement primarily is to educate, create awareness about the West Philippine Sea, and of course to instill patriotism among the Filipino youth, and also to protect the rights and welfare of the people in the West Philippine Sea," Lamkin said.

Lamkin said they chose to launch the movement in the CNMI at this time in anticipa-

Inos is new Chamber VP

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce has a new vice president.

Chris Concepcion, who was sworn in along with other officers just last January, had to resign from the Chamber's board and as vice president as he stepped in his position as the new managing director of Marianas Visitors Authority.

According to Chamber president Velma Palacios, Concepcion resigned effective April 15.

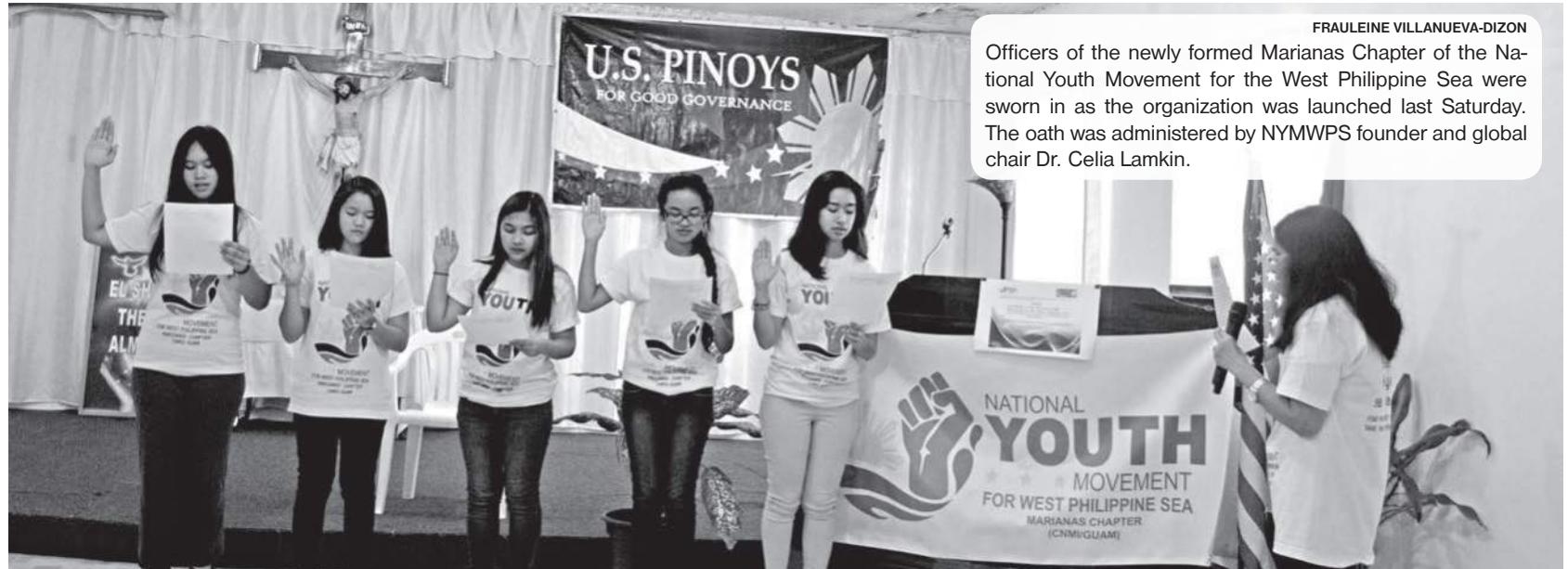
To replace Concepcion, Perry Inos Jr. was nominated as the vice president and has accepted that position.

"The board members voted him. I think he will be a good vice president, I mean, he's new to the board, he brings in new ideas also," Palacios said.

"I'm very happy that he's accepted that position," she added.

To fill in the board of directors position also held by Concepcion, the Chamber's board voted to invite Ron Smith to serve the remainder of Chris's term as member of the board which is until December of this year at a meeting last Wednesday. Smith accepted the invitation.

Aside from those mentioned, the Chamber's lineup of officers and directors are now as follows: Alex Sablan as secretary, Mike Johnson as treasurer, and directors Nida Palconit, Mable Ayuyu, Bud White, and Wayne Gillespie. (*Frauleine Villanueva-Dizon*)



FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON

Officers of the newly formed Marianas Chapter of the National Youth Movement for the West Philippine Sea were sworn in as the organization was launched last Saturday. The oath was administered by NYMWPS founder and global chair Dr. Celia Lamkin.

tion of the final ruling on the Philippines' case versus China filed before the Hague-based Permanent Court of Arbitration, which is expected this May or June.

Reynafe Aniga, a junior at Saipan Southern High School, was appointed as the president of NYMWPS Marianas both for the CNMI and Guam.

Although Filipino born and raised on a U.S. territory, Aniga said it is important for her and the other offices to be involved in the talks and movements against China's occupation of the West Philippine Sea.

"Our parents are always talking about the Philippines. We're always watching the news. We might not see it first hand, we might not be there personally but we see it through the media, we see it through the news and from there we can see what's happening in our homeland," Aniga said.

"It's very important for us, and it should be because, just because we're far away doesn't mean we'll be ignorant of what's happening in our homeland. That's where we came from and that's where our hearts are. Just because we

are U.S citizens doesn't mean that we're loyal to just the U.S., we also came from the Philippines," she added.

Aniga said they became more motivated to be part of the movement as they gained more knowledge and education on what is happening in the West Philippine Sea. Because of this, they will have upcoming programs to spread awareness and education further to fellow Filipino youths in the Marianas.

NYMWPS will be launched in Guam on June 12.

Youths who are of Filipino descent ages 13 to 35 are eli-

gible to be regular members and those who are above 35 years old can be an associate member, added Lamkin.

There are now about 20 chapters of the NYMWPS across Asia, the UK, USA, Europe, Australia, and Africa, according to Lamkin.

The movement was initially launched at the University

of the Philippines Los Banos, Laguna, Philippines in partnership with the UP Agri-business Society on Sept. 28, 2015, after its founder, Lamkin, was inspired by the success of the International Essay Contest on the West Philippine Sea where more than 300 students participated in 2012.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works

2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS DPW-16-IFB-008

Rehabilitation of the Tanapag Basketball Court

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for Rehabilitation of the Tanapag Basketball Court, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **April 26, 2016** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001.

There will be a Pre-bid Conference for this project on **May 12, 2016, 9:00 a.m. local time** at the Project Site, located at Tanapag, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m., local time on **May 16, 2016** to Mr. George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders shall examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to Mr. George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked "DPW-16-IFB-008". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, May 31, 2016**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, May 31, 2016**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@picom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **May 31, 2016** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **June 07, 2016**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, June 09, 2016**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:30 a.m. local time, May 31, 2016**.

For bids greater than Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surely requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsive determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **\$70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

- 1) Cash
- 2) US Gov't Securities
- 3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- 4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- 5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **Sixty (60) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **One Hundred (US\$100.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ PETER P. CAMACHO
Acting Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAR
Director of Procurement & Supply

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID ITB NO.: ITB 16-DPS-095

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: MAY 12, 2016

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF ONE (1) LIGHT TOWER FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY – HIGHWAY SAFETY, SAIPAN DPS TRAFFIC SECTION"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

/s/ ROBERT A. GUERRERO
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAR
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID ITB NO.: ITB 16-DPS-098

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: MAY 12, 2016

TIME: 10:30 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF TEN (10) RADAR UNITS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, HIGHWAY SAFETY, SAIPAN DPS TRAFFIC SECTION"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

/s/ ROBERT A. GUERRERO
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAR
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID ITB NO.: ITB 16-OFA-100 (A-C)

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: MAY 05, 2016

TIME: 11:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF TWELVE (12) LAPTOPS, TWO (2) DESKTOP COMPUTERS WITH ADDITIONAL SOFTWARE AND INSTALLATION FOR THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC AUDITOR"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

/s/ MICHAEL PAI, CPA
PUBLIC AUDITOR

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAR
DIRECTOR, P&S

DFS, IT&E donate over \$5,000 to NMC Foundation Golf Tournament



DFS Saipan representatives Ben Babauta (far left), Esther Ada (second from left), Marian Peirce (fourth from left), and Boyet Centeno (far right) present a \$1,000 check donation together with designer handbags to NMC's Foundation director James Glenn (third from left), NMC's Foundation president Mary Tenorio (second from left), and NMC's Chief Financial Officer Tracy Guerrero (third from right) in support of this Saturday's 13th Annual NMC Foundation Golf Tournament.



IT&E chief executive officer John Compton (third from left), IT&E Customer Service manager Janice Tenorio (second from right), and IT&E Sales & Marketing manager Hans Mickleson (first from right) present a \$2,500 check donation to NMC's Foundation president Mary Tenorio (third from right), NMC chief financial officer Tracy Guerrero (second from left), and NMC Foundation director James Glenn (first from left) in support of this Saturday's 13th Annual NMC Foundation Golf Tournament at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

In their support for the students of the CNMI, DFS Saipan and IT&E recently donated \$5,250 to the NMC Foundation. Their donation is in support of the 12th Annual Foundation Open golf tournament that will be held this weekend on Saturday, April 30, 2016.

DFS Saipan contributed over \$1,750 worth of designer bags and wallets, and an additional \$1,000.

IT&E donated \$2,500 worth of gift certificates as well.

The donation is part of the company's sponsorship of the Foundation's 13th Annual Foundation Golf Tournament, which will be held on Saturday, April 30, 2016.

The NMC Foundation is composed of community volunteers committed to the advancement of opportunities in support of higher education for students in the CNMI. The golf tournament is the NMC Foundation's signature event that raises funds to support NMC's academic

programs and services.

The 13th Annual Foundation Open Golf Tournament will be held at the Saipan Laolao Bay Golf & Resort west course with a shotgun start of 7am and will follow a medal play format. There will be six separate flight categories: Championship, A, B, C, Seniors, and Ladies.

The entrance fee is \$100 per player. Payments for the entrance fee can be made at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort and the NMC Cashier.

Tournament prizes for first place is \$500, second place is \$300, and third place is \$200 for each of the six flights. Hole-in-one prizes include a \$5,000 donation by Pacifica Insurance and two roundtrip tickets worth over \$4,000 to Japan and the U.S. sponsored by Delta Airlines.

For more information on how to donate to the NMC Foundation or to register to play, log on to www.marianas.edu or call 234-5498, 6784, or 6840. (PR)

Marianas Resort donates \$2.4K to NMC Foundation Golf Tournament

Marianas Resort recently presented a \$2,400 in kind donation to the Northern Marianas College Foundation.

The donation is part of the company's sponsorship of the Foundation's 13th Annual Foundation Golf Tournament, which will be held on Saturday, April 30, 2016.

The NMC Foundation is composed of community volunteers committed to the advancement of opportunities in support of higher education for students in the CNMI. The golf tournament is the NMC

Foundation's signature event that raises funds to support NMC's academic programs and services.

The 13th Annual Foundation Open Golf Tournament will be held at the Saipan Laolao Bay Golf & Resort west course with a shotgun start of 7am and will follow a medal play format. There will be six separate flight categories: Championship, A, B, C, Seniors, and Ladies.

The entrance fee is \$100 per player. Payments for the entrance fee can be made at the

Laolao Bay Golf & Resort and the NMC Cashier.

Tournament prizes for first place is \$500, second place is \$300, and third place is \$200 for each of the six flights. Hole-in-one prizes include a \$5,000 donation by Pacifica Insurance and 2 round trip tickets worth over \$4,000 to Japan and the U.S. sponsored by Delta Airlines.

For more information on how to donate to the NMC Foundation or to register to play, log on to www.marianas.edu or call 234-5498, 6784, or 6840. (PR)



Marianas Resort & Spa general manager Gloria Cavanagh (second from left) presents the \$2,400 donation to NMC's Foundation director James Glenn. Also in photo is Marianas Resort & Spa Property manager Charlene Babauta (first from left), NMC Foundation president Mary Tenorio (second from right), and NMC chief financial officer Tracy Guerrero (first from right). This year's Golf Tournament is set for Saturday, April 30, at the west course of the Laolao Bay Golf Resort.

Hertz Saipan encourages environmental awareness

Hertz Rent-A-Car, Saipan happily provided transportation to the participants of this year's Little Ms. Good Earth pageant. In collaboration with Empty Vessels Ministry

Foundation Inc. and Uncle Ben's Studios Educational Services, Little Ms. Good Earth is a CNMI-wide campaign that focuses on educating the youth about environmental issues. Now with dependable transportation, the participants in the pageant will be involved in planting trees, attending educational seminars, and getting involved with recycling initiatives.

Triple J Saipan family of companies is proud to be a continued advocate of preserving CNMI's diverse and beautiful environment. (PR)



Front, Lil' Ms. Earth contestants pose for a group photo. Back, Hertz Rent-A-Car general manager Alex Camacho, Hertz operations supervisor Kit Indalecio, and CSR's Xavier Yamson.

4 hailed as PSS Support Staff of the Year



Catherine K. Borja-Flores is the 2016 CNMI PSS Librarian of the Year and Abel R. Valenzuela is the 2016 Trades & Maintenance of the Year. They are both from Dandan Middle School. In this photo they are flanked by education leaders led by Board of Education chair Herman T. Guerrero and Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan.

Board of Education chair Herman T. Guerrero and Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan yesterday led public education leaders in honoring four Public School System employees as 2016 Support Staff of the Year awardees.

Lorenzo Hocog, who has been with the Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Junior Senior High School for eight years, was named 2016 Pupil Transportation Staff of the Year.

Hocog, who flew in from Rota yesterday, was joined by his Pupil Transportation Office family, when he was announced winner of the award at the PSS Lower Base facility.

Dandan Middle School had a double celebration with Catherine K. Borja-Flores being named 2016 Librarian of



Lorenzo A. Hocog, Jr. of Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Junior Senior High School is flanked by his Pupil Transportation, Board of Education, and PSS family after he was named yesterday as the 2016 Pupil Transportation of the Year winner.

the Year and Abel R. Valenzuela 2016 Trades and Maintenance Staff of the Year.

Borja-Flores has been with

Dandan Middle School for eight years now, while Valenzuela has been with the school for 15 years.



Kagman Elementary School's Louisito D. Bautista is the 2016 Administrative Staff of the Year.

ceremonies were held yesterday—at the PTO office in Lower Base; Dandan Middle School, and Kagman Elementary School.

The entire school district leadership attended. They were led by Guerrero, Sablan, and her leadership team comprised of associate commissioner for Curriculum and Instruction Jackie Quitagua, associate commissioner for Administrative Services Glen Muna, associate commissioner for Research, Accreditation and Evaluation Lynette Villagomez, Federal Programs officer Tim Thornburgh, Finance and Budget director Derek Sasamoto, Human Resources Office director Cindy Deleon Guerrero, and HRO assistant director Lucretia Borja. (PR)

MASSIVE BEACH CLEANUP



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Best Sunshine International, Ltd.'s Corporate Social Responsibility celebrated Environmental Awareness Month with a massive beach cleanup. Photo shows Imperial Pacific International Holdings Ltd.-Best Sunshine International majority shareholder Margaret Cui Lijie, chief services officer Tao Xing, and Rep. Edmund Villagomez stand alongside the company's Corporate Social Responsibility employees and community members after picking up marine debris along 13 Fisherman Memorial. A throng of community members came together to beautify various beaches on Saipan during last Saturday's "The Massive Beach Clean Up."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Various community members, including IPHI-BSI majority shareholder Margaret Cui Lijie and sister Xiang Bin Bian supported founder Rose Smith's Empty Vessel Ministry's mission to assist families and orphans in the Northern Marianas and Kenya by purchasing clothing at the nonprofit organization's garage sale held at 13 Fisherman Utt over the weekend.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
BSI majority shareholder Margaret Cui Lijie is joined by some member of a cultural dance group after a successful BSI-led "The Massive Beach Clean Up."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
BSI majority shareholder Margaret Cui Lijie and her sister Xiang Bin Bian are joined by some members of the DPS TOPS team after the successful BSI-led "The Massive Beach Clean Up."

Opinion

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVI, Issue No. 82

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

We who grew up with Prince hear our lives in his music

Born Prince Rogers Nelson and known for a spell as the unpronounceable “Love Symbol,” Prince wrote music that was as dynamic, prolific and continually inventive and, for real though, as fun as the discography of David Bowie, another music and fashion icon whose sudden death this year prompted an immediate, anguished outpouring of grief.

Just last month, Prince performed “Heroes” in Toronto and set the Internet on fire. Search posts for video of it now and you’ll see “Content unavailable.” That’s as good a sign as any of how protective Prince was of his copyrights—and how much of a musician’s musician he was. Yet there was a ton of Prince content available Thursday as fans and fellow performers grieved and shared memories, music and disbelief.

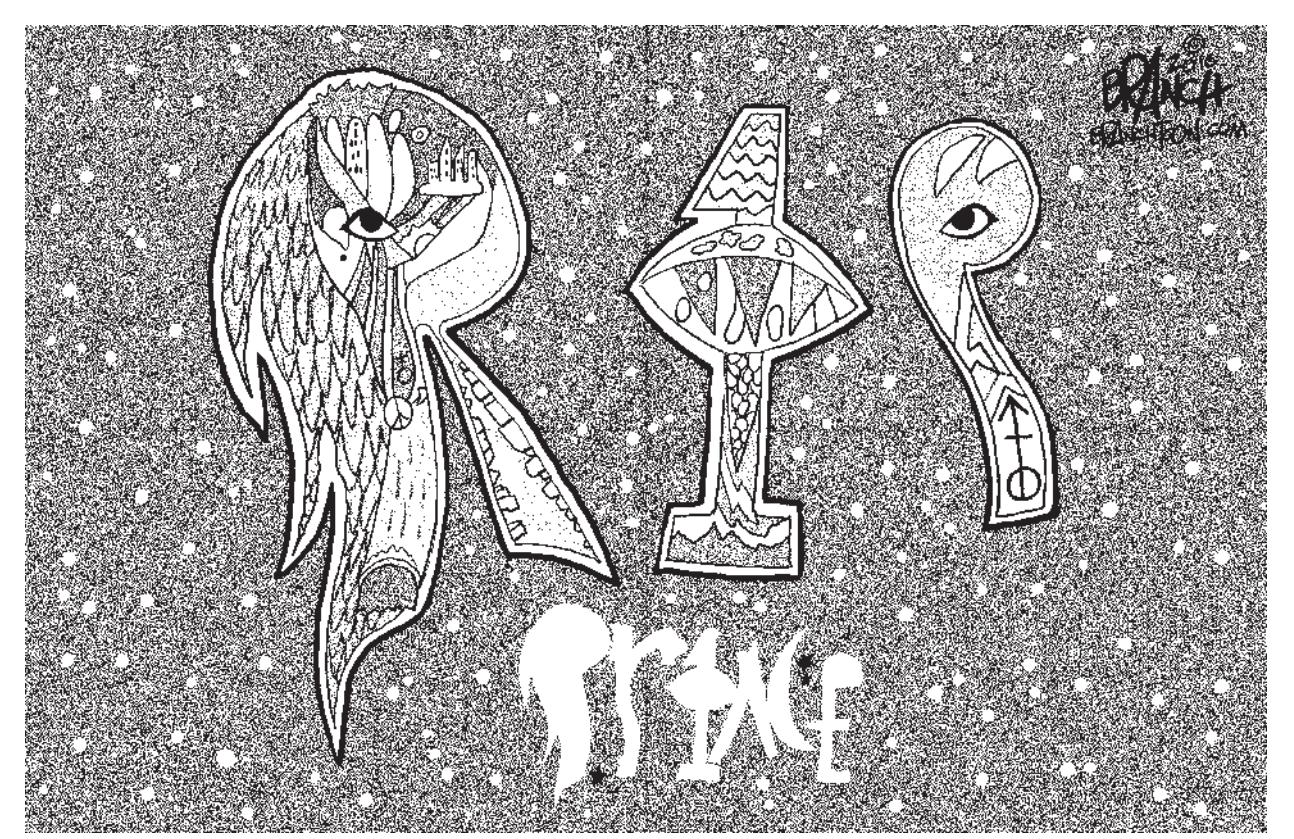
Prince found fame in 1982 with “1999” and went on to sell more than 100 million records. He won seven Grammys and an Academy Award for best original song score. He was inducted into and performed at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2004 (with a ferocious guitar solo and a fashionable red fedora) and performed at the Super Bowl in 2007 (in an absolute downpour). But people Thursday measured his life less in his moments than theirs. We who grew up with Prince can’t separate his music from our lives.

“Hamilton” creator Lin-Manuel Miranda used the word, “gutted.” “Today is the worst day ever,” wrote Boy George. “Numb,” wrote Justin Timberlake. “Stunned.” “I LOVED him,” wrote Chaka Khan. “The world LOVED him.”

Dearly beloved
We are gathered here today
2 get through this thing called life

Prince helped us get through this thing, his music helps still. As playwright Lynn Nottage wrote, Prince helped multiple generations ease “through adolescence into adulthood.” That he won’t help us all ease from adulthood to our older years is hard to fathom. We all just want extra time.

©2016 The San Diego Union-Tribune



The Saudi problem

How do you solve a problem like Saudi Arabia? President Barack Obama’s visit to Saudi Arabia this week will have little impact on the mounting American hostility toward the Saudis. Now that the United States is no longer dependent on Riyadh for oil, U.S. officials feel free to vent the pent-up anger that has been building for years.

The most recent example is the bill in Congress that would allow Americans to sue the Saudi government if it was found to have played a role in the Sept. 11 attacks — 15 of 19 hijackers were Saudis. Meantime, Obama may finally release 28 redacted pages of a 2002 congressional report on the attacks that may or may not implicate some Saudi officials.

Mind you, the 9/11 Commission found no evidence that the Saudi government or senior Saudi officials funded the attack. And if U.S. law were changed to permit bringing suit against a country, other nations would do the same to us.

Yet the congressional bill reflects a growing frustration at the hard-line Saudi version of Islam that has contributed in one way or another to the growth of jihadi terrorism. The legislation is a symptom of our failure to address the real Saudi problem, which no U.S. leader has figured out how to resolve.

The problem is bigger than the fact that Saudi charities and sheikhs have helped finance Islamists. The desert monarchy has curbed such support in recent years, and other Gulf countries are also conduits of funds. The existential threat revolves around the Saudis’ determination, over the past three decades, to spread their harsh Wahhabi variant of Islam around the world.

Wahhabism is a product of a long-ago deal between the tribal founders of Saudi Arabia and the 18th-century Sunni preacher, Muhammad ibn Abd al-Wahhab. This religious strain scorns other faiths, detests Shiite Muslims and praises jihad.

Saudi schools teach intolerance, and the monarchy permits hard-line imams to export their poison on the Internet. Since the 1980s, Saudi Arabia has spent a fortune building mosques and religious schools in other Muslim countries, while sending Saudi imams to promote fundamentalist thinking. I have seen the negative impact: on the West Bank in the 1980s; in Central Asia, Bosnia, and Iraqi Kurdistan in the 1990s; and in Pakistan, where for three decades Saudi-funded madrassas have trained generations of Taliban.

The Saudis defend themselves by claiming they are the targets of al-Qaida and the Islamic State. But their religious ideology has laid the theological groundwork for such violent jihadis. The main difference between them is that those groups consider current Arab regimes to be insufficiently faithful to these puritan precepts and deserving of destruction.

Obama recognizes the Saudi problem. Last year, according to a much-discussed article in the Atlantic Monthly, the president complained that Saudi funding of religious schools and seminar-

By TRUDY RUBIN
The Philadelphia Inquirer

Trudy Rubin is a columnist and editorial-board member for the Philadelphia Inquirer. Readers may write to her at: Philadelphia Inquirer, P.O. Box 8263, Philadelphia, Pa. 19101, or by e-mail at trubin@phillynews.com.



ies in Indonesia had moved that country from a more tolerant Islam to the more extreme Saudi version.

“Aren’t the Saudis your friends?” the president was asked.

“It’s complicated,” Obama supposedly replied. True. But that doesn’t explain why presidents from both parties have gone along with Saudi proselytizing for decades.

The answer, of course, is that, in the past, the Saudis provided things that U.S. presidents wanted. Of course there was oil, and — with some spectacular exceptions — the Saudis kept prices stable and supplies flowing.

And there was money: the Saudis helped Ronald Reagan finance the Afghan war against the Soviets (even though they funneled the funds to the worst Afghan fundamentalist groups). The Saudis also paid for most of the first Gulf War. They make huge purchases of U.S. weapons.

End even today — at a time when Americans want Mideast rulers to take greater responsibility for stabilizing their region — presidential candidates from both U.S. political parties are urging the Saudis to do more to fight the Islamic State. Never mind that what the Saudis have done already has only made the civil war in Syria — and Yemen — worse.

So how do you solve a problem like Saudi Arabia? I wish I had an answer.

But for starters, it’s time to get the problem out into the public sphere.

Obama should release the 28 redacted pages, so the public can finally see if there is any smoke. Even the Saudis have been asking for years to have the pages declassified.

Beyond that, this White House and the next must get realistic about what to expect from Saudi Arabia. It would be lovely to imagine that Saudi rulers could “find an effective way to share the neighborhood and institute some sort of cold peace (with Iran),” as Obama urged in the Atlantic Monthly. But this ain’t going to happen anytime soon, not just because the Sunni Saudis fear and loathe Iran’s Shiite ayatollahs, but because the feeling is mutual.

Rather than hope for miracles, the next president should assume that a larger regional role for the Saudis will only increase the level of sectarian conflict — until Riyadh and Tehran finally tire of this folly. U.S. policy will have to accept this hard truth. If that happy day comes when both sides are ready for a truce, the Saudis should be pressured to help finance the reconstruction of

See SAUDI on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

About that ‘health impact’ tax

There have been several letters to the editor recently commending the CNMI Legislature for passing such a law and touting the various supposedly “good” effects such a tax will render to the community. Of course, none of the “bad” effects are mentioned—at all.

Well, there are some “bad” effects, most of them economic and aimed squarely at the business community and your pocket-book. Besides, shouldn’t one’s “health” be a matter of one’s personal and private body? Oh, you may argue that one’s “health” does affect other people and the community as a whole. Especially cited are the effects of healthcare as it impacts the cost of such care for all—and, yes, that is an important benefit for any community; that is to have a “healthier” population.

But is the role of government such that it shall deem itself to be the protector of one’s body through controlling what we eat and drink by means of making those items so costly as to preclude their availability to the average person? Or is the real reason simply more sinister: to find a way to increase the coffers of a cash strapped government gone awry by sneaking in a “tax” under the guise of being “good for you?” Well, the intention of this letter is not to argue the validity of such a law or even the health aspects of it, but rather to give you a little insight into the nitty-gritty of what this law will do to the business community and more importantly, to your budget.

The business community can mostly speak for itself (and it no doubt will), but we all know such a law will impose huge headaches and nightmarish avalanches of paperwork; and that’s just to figure out what products are “taxable” and how much tax

is due—not to mention the reporting and remitting of it. And then there’s the government’s own “inspection” of the books and tracking. Will the CNMI be able to field “inspectors” capable of figuring out this nightmare, let alone enforcing (accurately) its provisions? I seriously doubt it!

Well, let’s get to some of that nitty-gritty: There are thousands of “sugar sweetened” drinks on the shelves, including all the well-known “soda-pops” and the multitude of them sold under various store brand names. So, I won’t bother to include those in my list, but here a few of the more popular “drinks” you will soon be paying a lot more for—ranging from \$0.48 cents to \$5.12 per container more:

Mike’s Hard Lemonade; Vanilla Soy Milk (and all soy and nut milks); Nesquik Chocolate milk; Capri Sun Drinks; Apple Juice; Orange Juice (most brands); Minute Maid Lemonade; Snapple; Arizona Lemon and Tea Drinks; Vitamin Water(s); RED BULL; Rockstar, Monster and ALL “energy boost” drinks; McDonald’s McCafe; Gatorade and all “sports” drinks; Sunkist Drinks; Hi-C; Hawaiian Punch; Sunny D; Ale 8 1; Iced Coffees; Boost, Glucerna and Ensure; Café Mocha and Cappuccino; Chocolate Milk; Hot Cocoa; Lipton and Nestea drinks; Slurpee; Tonic Water, and V-8 Fusion.

That’s only a very few of the commonly found grocery store carried drinks. But, you think that’s bad? Wait till you see the difference this tax will make on the second category it purports to control: syrups and powders. The law states that the \$0.04 cent per ounce tax shall apply “to the largest volume of beverage

produced from the use of a syrup or powder when used according to the manufacturer’s directions.” And here are only two of the most common:

1. A Syrup: Hershey’s Chocolate drink mix. A 48-ounce bottle of this mix costs about \$4.00 at Sam’s Club here—it will undoubtedly cost more in the CNMI. That bottle will make 35 - 8 ounce glasses of chocolate drink—that’s 280 ounces of beverage. At \$0.04 cents per ounce, that translates to a tax of \$11.20—per bottle!

2. A powder: Tang Juice drink mix. A 72-ounce canister costs about \$7 at Sam’s Club here—and, once again, it will undoubtedly cost more in the CNMI. That canister makes about 22 quarts of drink—that’s 704 ounces. At \$0.04 per ounce, that translates to a tax of \$28.16—per canister!

Now, does ANYONE still believe the CNMI Legislature actually has your best interest at heart? Do you believe they actually researched these issues? Did they hold public hearings and, if so, did any of the people who may have spoken there know what they were talking about?

So, under this law, as poorly written as it is (and overly simple), are you now prepared to either pay through the nose, not only for the target drinks (“soda-pop”) but for just about everything else on the shelf—even the ones that supposedly DO have some “health” benefits—or simply do without much to drink except water? Of course, the consumption of only water actually is beneficial, but do we all always drink only what’s “beneficial” to us? What about those of us who are healthy but living on a fixed (and tight) budget?

This “law” needs to be carefully discussed and considered before it is actually signed by a governor who probably has little or no idea of what the consequences will be to all of the community.

Dr. Thomas D. Arkle Jr.

Formerly of Tinian

Gun control

“**T**his year will go down in history. For the first time, a civilized nation has full gun registration. Our streets will be safer, our police more efficient, and the world will follow our lead into the future.”—

Adolf Hitler, 1935

Sound familiar? Yup, the CNMI government has with two laws, PL 6-38 and PL 19-42, gone out of its way to practice gun control using the safety of the public as the excuse. No different from any other place that has tried gun control.

I read an online comment that the 2nd Amendment did not apply to the states until 2010. The fact is that in 2010, the U.S. Supreme Court under the McDonald vs Chicago case, decided that the 2nd Amendment applied to the states just as it does the federal government. This means that the states are now held to the same standard as the federal government, therefore cannot impose restrictions on the 2nd Amendment. Our Covenant applied the 2nd Amendment as if the CNMI were a state. So why does our government ignore federal law?

The issue now is that under PL 19-42, although the CNMI government removed the handgun ban, it kept the same restrictions on rifles and shotguns included under its original gun control law, PL 6-38 and added more. Why? This new law should have no restrictions on rifle caliber or shotgun gauge, after all handguns are now legal for ownership. Why are we restricted to a .22 rifle or a .410 gauge shotgun when one can now buy and own a .44 magnum handgun?

And what’s with the magazine ban? Those people who have a 20 or 30 round magazine are now outlaws and at risk until they can find and purchase a 5 or 10 round magazine? What about the gun safe or trigger lock requirement? Aren’t these counterproductive to self-defense? Can you imagine trying to open your safe or find the keys to your trigger lock at 3:00 AM when a burglar is trying to break in your house or worse, already at your bedroom door? With self-defense, time is of the essence. Sometimes life or death is measured in seconds not days.

We have a right to bear arms. Firearms, handguns, muskets, from .17 caliber anything all the way to .50 caliber and beyond, as long as they are not prohibited by the federal government’s Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, BATFE. We need to move past this brain lock idea that rifles and shotguns should be restricted in caliber and gauge. A bullet fired from a gun, regardless of type or size has the capacity to maim or kill. A BB rifle or .22 pistol or a .50 caliber rifle are all lethal weapons in the wrong hands.

Under the new law, we can own a .45 caliber Colt semiautomatic handgun but not a .45 caliber rifle? Any difference?

Other than ballistics and range, nope. Is one inherently more dangerous than the other? Nope. A firearm by any name is a firearm. The U.S. Superior Court stated under section D. The Second Amendment Prohibits the Commonwealth from Denying WIC Applications on the Basis of Self-Defense.” To the extent that the Commonwealth prohibits access to firearms for lawful self-defense purposes, the prohibition is unconstitutional, and will therefore be enjoined.”

The government also included assault weapons but typical of us, they re-defined the term in PL 19-42? First, it has to be bigger than a .223 to be classified as assault rifle so an AR type rifle chambered in .223 is not an assault rifle but when chambered for a 9mm, it is? Who wrote this?

By now it’s quite obvious that PL 19-42 was but a senseless cut and paste rush job. Take a look at the following from PL 19-42:

1. Under Chapter 5, Transition. § 502. Transition -Illegal weapons and unregistered firearms

(a) The Department of Public Safety shall not register, and shall seize, any unregistered firearm that was present in the Commonwealth prior to the effective date of the Special Act for Firearms Enforcement. This provision shall not apply to individuals that were unable to register their firearms because they were not a United States citizen or national under the former language of 6 CMC § 2204(1).

■ So, if you were a guest worker or an illegal alien with a gun that you could not register because of your immigration status, you can do it now? Of course not, so why was this written?

2. Under Section 14-A, “4 CMC §1402 is temporarily amended by adding a new subsection as follows: (h) Pistols. \$1,000.00 per pistol.”

■ So if my son gives me a 9mm handgun in Guam, am I required to pay an excise tax of \$1000 plus possibly be forced to pay customs duty for bringing the 9mm to Saipan? Not only that, this tax has a timeline of only one year but the taxes have been dutifully earmarked for expenditure by our boys on the hill. Super, only one year, perhaps some underlying concerns from the congressman who introduced this piece? There are other flaws. The point is PL 19-42 is broken and needs to be repealed along with the rest of PL 6-38 under CMC 6 and in their place, a simple law which provides concise policies and guidance on the punishment of the crime, not the law abiding citizens.

Our new law was hoopla’d with the premise of the safety of the public. Excluding an amnesty period so all guns will be accounted and registered will accomplish two things: Keep all unregistered guns illegal and maybe in the hands of the criminals and totally compromise public safety. While we’re at it, a bullet collection system designed to collect a bullet

fired from every registered firearm for a forensic database a DPS ensures that we catch that criminal who fired his gun in the commission of a crime.

We’re dealing with the issue of gun rights and public safety. Forget gun control, that’s like trying to control alcohol, just does not work. We’re also dealing with the fundamental right of self-defense, not only a right but an instinct that no government on earth can regulate or legislate out of existence. By making the necessary changes through the repealing of these laws, we can have it all and still comply with federal law while avoiding more lawsuits and liabilities, we just have to make these changes now, before those happen.

The court’s decision on the 2nd Amendment clarified the application of not only the amendment, but case law based on U.S. Supreme Court decisions on gun cases, notably, Heller vs the District of Columbia and McDonalds vs Chicago. It did not ask for our government’s concurrence but demanded compliance. That it must do.

Remember when the U.S. Supreme Court decided that gays and lesbians can marry under the 14th Amendment to the US Constitution? When the news hit the NMI, people welcomed it and Ralph Torres guy was even quoted as saying it’s about time. On the guns ruling, it’s been way overdue.

Our judges and many other government officials were issued a handgun to defend themselves against us, the public. On the other hand, the public has to abide by strict guidelines loaded with outrageous sentencing requirements just to be able to defend themselves. Are you telling me that those issued a government handgun are being targeted by these criminals and we’re not? Read the paper please.

Roy S. Reyes

Dandan

SAUDI

From Page 10

Syria and Yemen.

But long before that, the next president should promote an intensified debate within both Western and Muslim countries on how to prevent Saudi proselytizing from poisoning the minds of innumerable young Muslims.

“There is a violent, radical, fanatical, nihilistic interpretation of Islam by a faction—a tiny faction—within the Muslim community that is our enemy, and that has to be defeated,” Obama told the Atlantic.

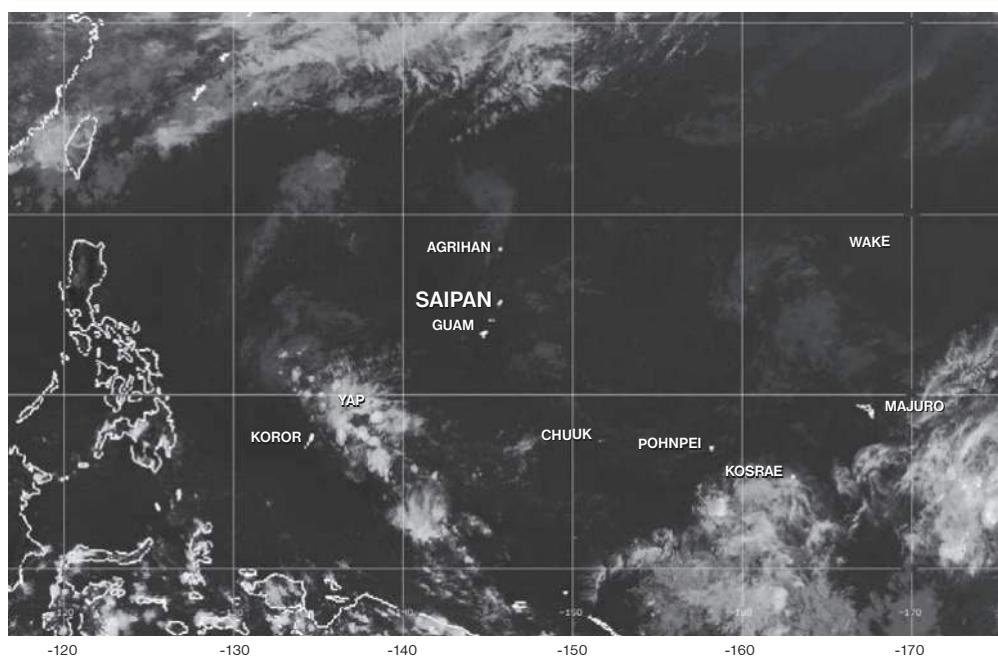
The Saudis must be discouraged from helping that faction to grow.

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 88° ▼ 76°	▲ 88° ▼ 76°	▲ 88° ▼ 76°	▲ 88° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00 PM, MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2016

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A trade-wind disturbance is producing scattered showers between Wake Island and Kwajalein between 10N and 19N from 160E to 169E. A surface trough just west of Yap extends from 11N136E to 1N142E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are occurring near and west of Yap within 125 miles of the trough axis. Low-level convergence is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms south of Pohnpei and Kosrae south of a line from 2N156E to 6N161E to 4N165E. A broad trade-wind disturbance is producing widespread cloudiness along with scattered showers and thunderstorms southeast and east of Majuro between 7N and 1N from 172E to 180.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Showers	▲ 87	▼ 79
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲ 88	▼ 77
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲ 92	▼ 79
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲ 86	▼ 80
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲ 88	▼ 80
Kosrae	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 85	▼ 81
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 85	▼ 79

Around the Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲ 70	▼ 58
Beijing	Windy	▲ 87	▼ 55
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	▲ 79	▼ 74
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲ 84	▼ 72
London	Thundershowers	▲ 50	▼ 37
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲ 72	▼ 52
Manila	Mostly Sunny	▲ 98	▼ 78
Melbourne	Sunny	▲ 78	▼ 55
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲ 82	▼ 71
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲ 70	▼ 55
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲ 81	▼ 61
Paris	Showers	▲ 48	▼ 38
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲ 70	▼ 51
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲ 65	▼ 56
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲ 60	▼ 37
San Francisco	Windy	▲ 65	▼ 50
Seoul	Sunny	▲ 76	▼ 49
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲ 75	▼ 60
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲ 82	▼ 65

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
5:19 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet
10:19 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
5:27 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:56 AM	6:34 PM
Wednesday	5:56 AM	6:34 PM
Thursday	5:55 AM	6:34 PM
Saturday	5:54 AM	6:34 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	9:52 PM	8:45 AM
Wednesday	10:42 PM	9:34 AM
Thursday	11:32 PM	10:24 AM
Friday		11:16 AM
Saturday	12:21 AM	12:10 PM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website: www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 21, 2016

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL297	4:20pm	7:05pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7	DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			

Empty Vessel thanks Aloha for Saipan

Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation is again extending its gratitude to its generous donors. The latest donor the charity is thanking is Aloha for Saipan crew, which successfully rounded up donations from Hawaii residents and companies and brought them to Saipan.

"We are grateful to all of you for your generosity in assisting the Saipan community during the Soudelor disaster in 2015. Special thank you to L.J. Duenas who took the lead in organizing two 40-foot containers with relief goods," said Empty Vessel founder and director Rose Smith.

Aloha for Saipan was able to gather donations for its Typhoon Soudelor donation drive from the state's military volunteers, Sen. Glenn Wakai, Matson, Mufi Hannemann, the Hawaii Hotel and Lodging Association, New Hope Aloha Congregation, Merv Lam and Safeway Pali, Pacific Transfer, Toys R Us, Pomakai Trucking,



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation volunteers help distribute donations brought from Hawaii by Aloha Saipan.

Kiyu Public Library.

"These donations enabled EVM to help more than 6,000 individuals and we are continuing to give away donated items that are still in stock," she added.

"Thank you Aloha for Saipan and your supporters, from the bottom of EVM's hearts. We are touched by your kindheartedness, your show of humanity, and your love and care for the Saipan community. Thank you for putting smiles on the faces of those who were affected from Soudelor's devastation. You brought them relief during this recovery time through your donations. Many people had lost their bedding and you provided comfort to them. They were in desperate need of water, and you gave that most basic of needs. More than 300 linen and medical equipment and supplies were donated to the hospital. Thank you!" said Smith. (PR)

Nat'l Prescription Drug Take Back Day on April 30

Alicia A.G. Limtiaco, U.S. Attorney for the Districts of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands, together with Drug Enforcement Administration Resident Agent in Charge Michael Puralewski, announced that the next National Prescription Drug Take Back Day will be on Saturday, April 30, from 10am to 2pm.

The following sites have been designated to receive unused prescription drugs:

- Naval Base Guam (Navy Exchange Food Court)
- Agana Shopping Center (Across Vitamin World)
- Agat Village Mayor's Office
- Andersen Air Force Base (Exchange & Commissary)
- Dededo Village Mayor's Office
- Rota Health Center
- Saipan Commonwealth Health Center
- Timian Health Center

We would like to remind the public that:

■ Unused or expired prescription medications are a public safety issue, leading to accidental poisoning, overdose, and abuse.

■ Pharmaceutical drugs can be just as dangerous as street drugs when taken without a prescription or a doctor's supervision.

■ The non-medical use of prescription drugs ranks second only to marijuana as the most common form of drug abuse in America.

■ The majority of teenagers abusing prescription drugs get them from family and friends—and the home medicine cabinet.

■ Unused prescription drugs thrown in the trash can be retrieved and abused or illegally sold. Unused drugs that are flushed contaminate the water supply. Proper disposal of unused drugs saves lives and protects the envi-

ronment.

■ Take-back programs are the best way to dispose of old drugs.

The first National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day event was held nationwide in September 2010. Guam and the CNMI have participated every year since. The purpose of the National Drug Take-Back Initiative is to help prevent increased pill abuse and theft, to encourage the public to rid their household of unused prescription drugs that pose a safety hazard and can contribute to prescription drug abuse, and to provide a venue for persons who want to dispose of unwanted and unused prescription drugs for safe disposal by DEA.

For more information on prescription drug abuse, go to: www.dea.gov, www.getsmartaboutdrugs.com, or www.justthinktwice.com. (PR)

Friends of Hawaii Library, and The People of Hawaii.

Smith said the relief goods Empty Vessel received were

made up of clothing, shoes, beddings, medical equipment and supplies, water food, futons, and books for the Joeten

UOG names Palmer athletic director

The University of Guam has hired Douglas Palmer as its new athletic director. Palmer joins UOG after serving as the head athletic director for Shoreline Community College in Washington state for the last seven years.

"I'm very excited to be at UOG," Palmer said. "This is my dream job—it's a unique situation, and I want to eventually have every major sport on the island covered here."

He earned a bachelor of science in physical education from Winthrop University in 1982 and a master's of athletic administration from Florida State University two years later.

Palmer has an extensive history in serving in administrative roles and coaching in higher education. He served as the assistant volleyball and softball coach at the University of South Carolina for a year. Under his instruction, the softball team finished 3rd in the NCAA Division I in 1983. The next year, he moved to Florida State University to focus his skills as a hitting coach for the FSU women's softball team until 1985.

Palmer spent the next 21 years at the University of West Florida, initially as a head softball coach where his team won the NAIA National Softball Championship in 1993—his last year of coaching at that university—and later moving on to administrative roles at

playing in the Guam Basketball Association.

"After nearly 15 years, we've relaunched the Triton Athletics Program after nearly 15 years, and Doug brings the experience and knowledge we need to hit the ground running," Wiegand said. "We hope to enhance the overall student experience at UOG by giving our young people a chance to develop academically and athletically." (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Douglas Palmer, former head athletic director for Shoreline Community College, has been named the University of Guam's new athletic director.

UOG PH Lecture Series Features 'The Marketing of Philippine Politicians'

The University of Guam College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences announces the next installment of its Philippine Lecture Series featuring Dr. Luz Suplico Jeong, professor of marketing management in the College of Business at De La Salle University in Manila.

Dr. Jeong will discuss "The Marketing of Philippine Politicians: Selling Persons In-



Suplico

stead of Tangible Products" at 4 p.m. on Friday, April 29 at the IT&E Lecture Hall Rm. 131 in the Jesus & Eugenia Business and Public Administration Building on the UOG campus.

The talk will be preceded by welcoming remarks from Dean of the UOG College

For more information, contact Dr. Lilnabith Somera at bethsomera@gmail.com. (PR)

Business

Obama: UK-US trade deal could take a decade after Brexit

LONDON (AP)—President Barack Obama flew out of Britain Sunday after warning that it could take a decade for the U.K. to negotiate a new trade agreement with the United States if it leaves the European Union.

In a BBC interview, Obama said “it could be five years from now, 10 years from now before we were able to actually get something done.”

The U.S. and the 28-nation European bloc of which Britain is a member are attempting to seal a trade deal, the Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership, or TTIP.

Obama said that “the U.K. would not be able to negotiate something with the United States faster than the EU.”

“Our preference would be to work with this large block

of countries,” he added.

Obama flew to Germany after a three-day U.K. visit during which he angered supporters of an EU exit by making it clear the United States wants Britain to stay in.

He said Friday that Britain would go to the “back of the queue” for a trade deal if it votes to leave in a June 23 referendum.

That drew scorn from backers of a U.K. exit, or Brexit, who accused the president of meddling.

Nigel Farage, leader of the anti-EU U.K. Independence Party, said Sunday that “Barack Obama is not a pro-British president.”

But Obama told the BBC that he hoped British voters would listen to the friendly opinion of “the president of

the United States, who loves the British people and cares deeply about this relationship.”

And he said the close relationship between Britain and the U.S. would endure, whatever happened.

“The bond between our two countries is unbreakable,” Obama said.

Hillary Clinton, the favorite to secure the Democrats’ presidential nomination, shares Obama’s view on Brexit.

Senior policy adviser Jake Sullivan told the Observer newspaper that Clinton “believes that trans-Atlantic cooperation is essential, and that cooperation is strongest when Europe is United.”

“She has always valued a strong United Kingdom in a strong EU,” he said.

IMF expects \$500B revenue loss for Mideast oil exporters

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)—Oil exporting countries in the Middle East lost a staggering \$390 billion in revenue due to lower oil prices last year, and should brace for even deeper losses of more than \$500 billion this year, the International Monetary Fund said Monday.

The fund had projected in October that oil exporting countries in the region would see revenue losses of \$360 billion in 2015, but oil prices took a tumble by year’s end and the drop in revenue amounted to \$30 billion more.

In a revised economic outlook report released Monday, the IMF said these countries will see revenues from oil exports drop even more in 2016, to between \$490 billion to \$540 billion compared to 2014, when oil prices were higher. Oil prices plunged to around \$30 a barrel in January compared to \$115 in mid-2014.

IMF Director for Middle East and Central Asia Masood Ahmed said these losses translate into budget deficits and slower economic growth, particularly for countries like Saudi Arabia that are still heavily dependent on oil to finance their spending. Though the kingdom has been working on plans to overhaul its economy, oil still accounted for 72

percent of total revenue last year and Saudi Arabia projects a budget deficit of nearly \$90 billion this year.

The report said that economic growth in the six Gulf Cooperation Council countries of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and the United Arab Emirates will slow from 3.3 percent in 2015 to 1.8 percent this year. Saudi Arabia, the region’s biggest economy, will see growth at just above 2 percent.

The IMF has encouraged reforms that would limit public spending on welfare programs and handouts that citizens in the Gulf have become accustomed to, such as lifting subsidies and tightening public sector wage bills to offset the impact of declining revenues. Already, most GCC countries have raised fuel, water, and electricity prices. Outside the GCC, oil exporter Algeria recently hiked fuel, electricity, and natural gas prices, and Iran increased fuel prices.

“Oil prices are likely to improve from where they are, but they’re not going to go back to the figures that we saw in 2013 and 2014 for a long, long time, so this means that many of them have to cut back spending and they also have to try to raise revenue outside the oil sector,” Ahmed told The Asso-

ciated Press.

The IMF warns that just among oil exporters in the region, 10 million young people are expected to enter the workforce by 2020, yet 3 million of them will find themselves without jobs at the current pace of development. Young people’s frustration at their lack of prospects was a key driver of the Arab Spring uprisings that rocked the Middle East in 2011.

The report said the war in Syria has had a negative spillover effect on the economies of neighboring Jordan and Lebanon. From October and March alone, more than 600,000 people fled Syria due to the fighting, bringing the total number of refugees to almost 5 million. The size of Syria’s economy today, the IMF said, is less than half of what it was before the war erupted in 2011.

In Egypt, political turmoil has held back growth due to concerns over security. However, lower oil prices have reduced energy subsidy bills there.

Though Iran’s growth was at zero in 2015, its economy is expected to grow 4 percent in 2016 and 3.7 percent in 2017 as it ramps up oil production and looks to increase trade and investment with the easing of international sanctions.

Gas prices jump by 8 cents over past 2 weeks, averages \$2.18

CAMARILLO, Calif. (AP)—The average price of gasoline has jumped by 8 cents over the past three weeks to \$2.18 a gallon for regular grade.

Industry analyst Trilby Lundberg said Sunday that the hike is partly due to crude oil

prices edging up. The price at the pump has gone up 41 cents over the past nine weeks.

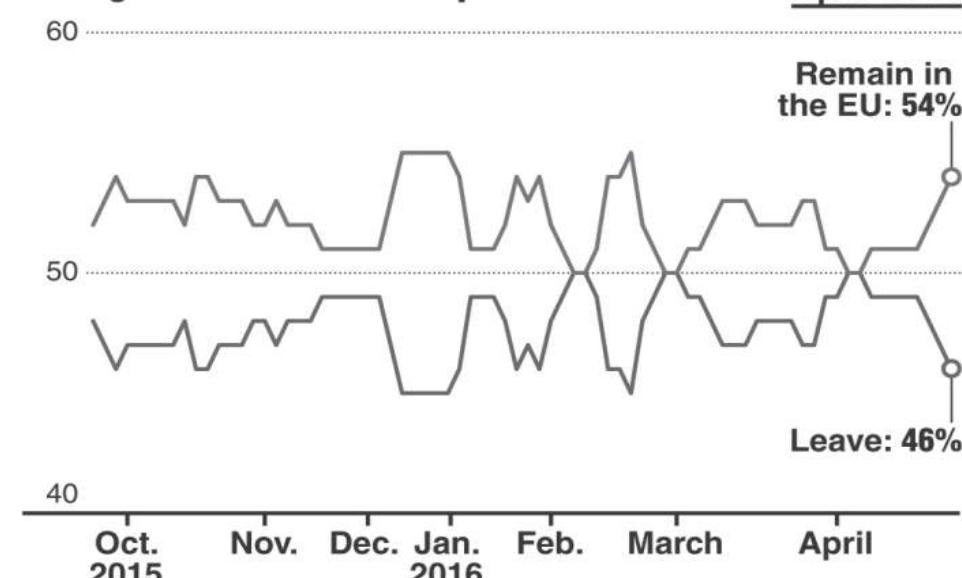
Lundberg says that trend will likely continue as refiners make higher-cost summer blend gasoline in compliance with federal regulations.

The U.S. average diesel price is \$2.20 per gallon, up 3 cents from two weeks ago.

The UK/EU referendum

On June 23, the United Kingdom will vote on whether to stay in the European Union. Here’s a look at voters’ opinions on the referendum.

Averages of six most recent polls



Source: What UK Thinks

Graphic: Tribune News Service

Recognizing your flaws is great, but just a first step

Q: I recently realized that I’ve been acting like an emotional drama queen in my new job. Because of this behavior, my manager has expressed doubts about my fitness for the position. However, I think he might be willing to give me a second chance.

I now understand that I must respect personal boundaries and be careful about the subjects I discuss at work. I’ve considered sending my boss an apology email explaining what I’ve learned and how I plan to change. Do you think this will help?

A: Kudos to you for recognizing that your own behavior is the source of your problems. Instead of defensively rejecting your manager’s concerns, you considered the possibility that he might have a point. Honest self-examination is the first step in personal growth, so this mature attitude bodes well for your ability to change.

While an apology email may encourage your boss to keep an open mind, you need regular feedback to be sure his opinion is shifting. For example, you might suggest meeting every Friday to review the previous week. This will not only highlight your progress, but also make you aware of any concerns.

To increase your odds of success, identify the triggers for your emotional behavior. Do certain subjects spark excessive self-revelation? Try

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of Secrets to Winning at Office Politics. Send in questions and get free coaching tips at <http://www.yourofficecoach.com>, or follow her on Twitter @ officecoach.



to avoid those topics. Do particular people push your buttons? Limit your time with them. And if you inadvertently wander into conversational quicksand, be ready with an exit line, like “Sorry, I’m getting off the subject.”

Very few drama queens are able or willing to acknowledge their problem, so you’ve already made a big first step. Changing entrenched habits can be difficult, but with determination and perseverance, I believe you can do it.

Q: My boss regularly complains to me about my co-workers, and they tell me she does the same with them. Her habit of openly discussing our flaws tends to pit people against each other and create conflict. However, she always says she wants a more cohesive team. What should we do about this?

A: Your gossipy boss is completely out of line. A mature manager would never discuss one employee’s job performance with another. However, she sounds more clueless than

malicious, so perhaps she’s just a compulsive talker with no filter between her brain and her mouth.

Since giving feedback to the boss is always risky, you must carefully consider her reaction before raising the issue. If she is typically non-defensive and open to advice, the group might be able to safely present this as a concern, not a criticism.

For example: “Mary, we know you care about teamwork, so we have a suggestion. When talking with you, we sometimes wind up discussing other team members’ shortcomings. This feels uncomfortable and often creates hard feelings, so we would like to avoid those conversations in the future.”

Alternatively, you could have the message delivered by a third party, like a trustworthy human resources manager. But if direct feedback seems unwise, then you should band together and minimize the damage. If everyone agrees to disregard your boss’s harmful remarks, you might really become a more cohesive group.

Nation

Cruz, Kasich strategies align with goal of beating Trump

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP)—In an extraordinary move, Donald Trump's Republican rivals late Sunday announced plans to coordinate primary strategies in upcoming states to deprive the GOP front-runner of the delegates needed to win the Republican nomination.

Ted Cruz and John Kasich issued near-simultaneous statements outlining an agreement that may be unprecedented in modern American politics. The Kasich campaign will give Cruz "a clear path in Indiana." In return, the Cruz campaign will "clear the path" for Kasich in Oregon and New Mexico.

The arrangement does not address the five Northeastern states set to vote on Tuesday, where Trump is expected to add to his already overwhelming delegate lead. Kasich and Cruz had already retreated to Indiana, which holds its primary on May 3. Yet the shift offers increasingly desperate Trump foes a glimmer of hope in their long and frustrating fight to halt the former reality

television star's unlikely rise.

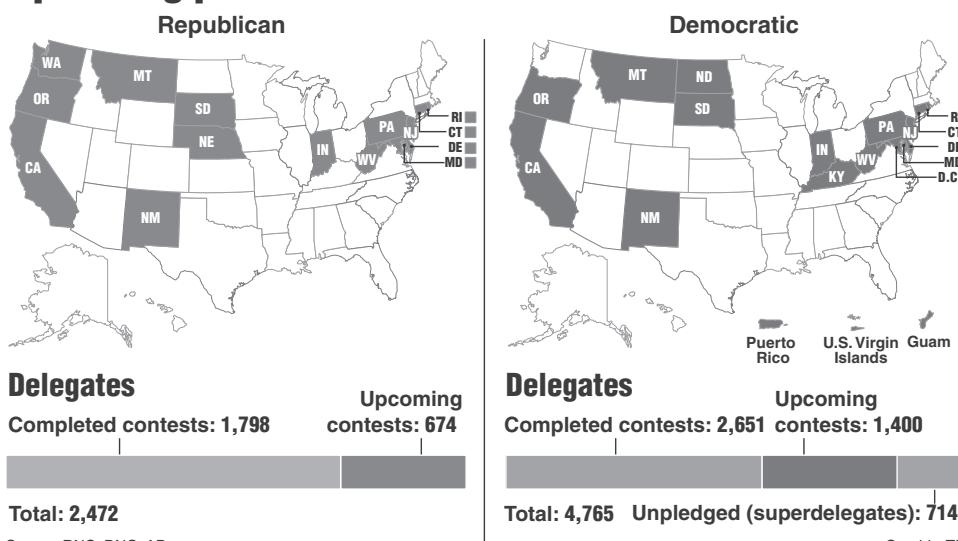
"Having Donald Trump at the top of the ticket in November would be a sure disaster for Republicans," Cruz's campaign manager, Jeff Roe, said in a statement explaining the new plans. "Not only would Trump get blown out by Clinton or Sanders, but having him as our nominee would set the party back a generation."

Added Kasich's chief strategist, John Weaver, "Our goal is to have an open convention in Cleveland, where we are confident a candidate capable of uniting the party and winning in November will emerge as the nominee."

The announcement marks a sharp reversal for Cruz's team, which aggressively opposed coordinating anti-Trump efforts with Kasich as recently as late last week. And it only applies to Indiana, Oregon and New Mexico—three of the 15 states remaining on the Republican primary calendar.

Yet the development underscores a bleak reality for the billionaire businessman's Re-

Upcoming primaries and caucuses



publican foes: Time is running out to stop him.

Trump responded on Twitter shortly before midnight: "Wow, just announced that Lyin' Ted and Kasich are going to collude in order to keep me from getting the Republican nomination. DES-

PERATION!"

The announcement came less than 48 hours before voting begins across five Northeastern states where the New York billionaire leads in many polls. Trump campaigned Sunday in Maryland, which will vote on Tuesday along with

Rhode Island, Connecticut, Pennsylvania and Delaware.

Speaking to several thousand people in an airplane hangar in Hagerstown, Maryland, Sunday evening, Trump stressed repeatedly that he expects to win the 1,237 delegates needed in the first round

of voting to stave off a contested convention.

"I only care about the first. We're not going for the second and third and fourth and fifth," said Trump.

As Kasich backs out of Indiana, Cruz promised to not compete in primary contests in Oregon on May 17 and New Mexico on June 7.

"We will focus our time and resources in New Mexico and Oregon, both areas that are structurally similar to the Northeast politically, where Gov. Kasich is performing well," Weaver said.

As recently as three days ago Kasich's campaign announced investments in Indiana, including the opening of two offices and the creation of a campaign leadership team. His campaign on Sunday night canceled a town hall and gathering in Indianapolis scheduled to watch the results of Tuesday's primaries.

Ohio attorney general: Slayings of 8 'pre-planned execution'



Media and emergency personnel stand at the perimeter of a crime scene as investigation vehicles drive up Union Hill Road, Friday, April 22, 2016, in Pike County, Ohio.

shot in the head. Authorities remained tight-lipped Sunday about details of the investigation, any suspects or motives for the crime.

Pike County Sheriff Charles Reader said that in his 20 years in law enforcement, he never

interacted with the Rhoden family "in a criminal nature." He said it was clear the family was targeted, however, and he's told the victims' relatives to arm themselves.

Reader said he didn't believe safety was an issue for

others, but he said: "If you are fearful, arm yourself."

Authorities have been scrambling to determine who targeted the clan and why. Investigators have interviewed between 50 and 60 people in hopes of finding leads, and a team of 38 people is combing wooded areas around the shooting scenes to ensure no evidence was missed, authorities said.

DeWine said the state's crime lab was looking at 18 pieces of evidence from a DNA and ballistic standpoint, and five search warrants have been executed. Autopsies were expected to be completed Monday.

"This was very methodical. This was well planned. This was not something that just happened," said Reader, noting most victims were targeted while they were sleeping.

California jurors misusing the Internet could face fines

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Jurors who threaten to derail trials by researching them on Google or posting comments about them on Twitter are often dismissed with nothing more than a tongue-lashing from a judge.

But that may soon change in California. Legislation supported by state court officials would authorize judges in some counties to fine jurors up to \$1,500 for social media and Internet use violations, which have led to mistrials and overturned convictions around the country.

As jurors and judges have

become more technology savvy in recent years, the perils of jurors playing around with their smartphones have become a mounting concern, particularly in technology-rich California. A 2011 state law made improper electronic or wireless communication or research by a juror punishable by contempt.

Supporters of the latest California measure say a potential fine would give teeth to existing prohibitions against social media and Internet use and simplify the process for holding wayward jurors accountable.

"It's disruptive of the judicial process, and there ought to be a fairly simple and convenient way for a judge to sanction a juror based on the order that the judge has given," said Assemblyman Rich Gordon, D-Menlo Park, who authored the legislation.

But critics question whether it will have any practical effect on jurors who are constantly on sites such as Facebook and Twitter and suggest judges vet the social media activity of potential jurors before seating them.

"If you have an Internet addict who just can't psycho-

logically stop, you may want to excuse that person," said Paula Hannaford-Agor, who studies juries at the National Center for State Courts.

Brian Walsh, a judge in the Silicon Valley county of Santa Clara, said a fine could also change the dynamic between judges and juries.

"You want to present the jurors' obligations to serve as an inviting opportunity to participate in the democratic process," he said. "One could consider it counterproductive to be laying out all the penalties a juror can incur if they blow it."

ACROSS THE NATION

1 dead, 1 'cooperating' after shooting death in church

NORTH WALES, Pa. (AP)—Authorities say a dispute between two members of a suburban Philadelphia church during a Sunday worship service ended with one person shooting and killing the other. Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin Steele said the disagreement escalated from an 11 a.m. "disturbance" at Keystone Fellowship Church in North Wales. Authorities didn't say what the disturbance was or describe the crux of the disagreement at the evangelical church. Police were called and found Robert Braxton, 27, of Montgomeryville, with a gunshot wound to the chest.

Gunman wounds 2 outside Wisconsin prom before cops kill him

ANTIGO, Wis. (AP)—An 18-year-old man opened fire with a high-powered rifle outside of a high school prom in northern Wisconsin, wounding two students before a police officer who was in the parking lot fatally shot him, authorities said Sunday. Investigators did not say whether they believe the two students were specifically targeted or discuss a possible motive for the shooting outside Antigo High School late Saturday.

But a school administrator said it appeared that the gunman—identified by police as Jakob E. Wagner—intended to go into the dance and start shooting randomly. The two prom-goers who were wounded were shot as they exited the building, according to Eric Roller, the chief of police in Antigo, a community of about 8,000 people roughly 150 miles north of Milwaukee.

3 federal agents injured during shootout at Kansas motel

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP)—Authorities found a body in a Kansas hotel room that erupted in flames during a shootout in which three federal agents were injured while trying to arrest a robbery suspect, the FBI said Sunday. The FBI said in a release that two deputy U.S. marshals and an FBI agent who were part of a U.S. Marshals Service Fugitive task force, suffered non-life-threatening injuries Saturday night when they came under fire while trying to arrest 28-year-old Orlando J. Collins at a Topeka hotel.

The suspect, who was being sought on a federal robbery warrant, was also on the state's most wanted list and was considered armed and dangerous, the FBI said. As the officers approached the hotel room they came under fire from the inside the room, the FBI said.

Asia

Nepal has done little to protect itself from next ‘big one’

KATHMANDU, Nepal (AP)—Last year’s massive earthquake in Nepal killed nearly 9,000 people, yet could have been much deadlier. It was spared not by disaster preparedness, but by the calendar.

It hit on a Saturday. Most children were out of school, and most adults were working in their fields, rather than in the hundreds of thousands of buildings that were damaged or destroyed.

The Himalayan country can’t count on that kind of luck next time, but since it’s in the middle of a highly active seismic region, it can count on another major quake at some point. Yet experts say Nepal and neighboring India have a long way to go to implement earthquake-safe building practices.

Nearly a year after the disaster, Nepalese authorities have yet to announce new building codes.

“I haven’t seen any significant initiative or change that

would help the next time,” said Mattias Bryneson of the Plan International aid agency. The government has said more than 8,000 schools were damaged or destroyed in last year’s quake. Still, “similar types of schools are still standing in other parts of Nepal,” Bryneson said. If a quake hit tomorrow and affected those areas, those schools could also collapse.

The next high-magnitude quake “is going to be a massive, huge disaster for Nepal,” Bryneson said. Similarly, Nepal also faces the threat of quake-triggered landslides, of which there were at least 3,000 last year, burying villages, blocking roads and ruining farmland.

The April 25 quake killed nearly 9,000 people in Nepal while damaging or destroying almost 800,000 homes. Another 102 people were killed on the Indian side of the border, where some 13,000 houses were badly damaged.

The Himalayas are result of smashing and buckling



In this May 2, 2015 file photo, a Nepalese boy stands outside his village with a signboard asking for help in Pauwathok village, Sindhupalchok district, Nepal. AP

between the tectonic plates on which India and China sit. Since the 7.8-magnitude struck on April 25, 2015, in the central district of Gorkha, Nepal has been rattled by constant aftershocks.

Other quakes have hit nearby, most significantly a Jan.

4 rattle of magnitude 6.7 in the northeast Indian state of Manipur, and a 6.9-magnitude tremor on April 13 centered in the hills of neighboring Myanmar. Seismologists warn there are several places across the Himalayas that are overdue for a “big one,” possibly

much stronger than last year’s quake.

Some Nepalis are still afraid of moving back inside heavy buildings. Mahila Prajapati has lived with his family in a tin shed since their home crumbled in last year’s quake, killing his uncle.

“I don’t know if I will ever be able to move into brick-and-concrete house again. I saw many people crushed underneath piles of bricks. I still get nightmares,” Prajapati said.

When he does go into buildings, the first thing he checks for is stairways and exits.

Others who have started rebuilding, mostly without government help, are doing what they can to make sure their homes are earthquake-safe. They are opting to build with bamboo and wood, more flexible and lighter than the stone and brick buildings that crumbled last year, causing most of the 8,856 deaths. They are building structures with fewer stories. And engineers must now sign documents declaring homes they plan to build are safe, or they won’t be issued building permits.

“I am putting in more iron rods in the pillars, and have decided to limit the floors to two,” Kathmandu resident Narayan Maharjan said as he was shopping in a hardware store for supplies to rebuild his family home. “I will be able to sleep better knowing my family is safe.”

Obama dismisses N. Korea proposal on halting nuke tests

NEW YORK (AP)—A day after North Korea’s foreign minister told The Associated Press that his country is ready to halt its nuclear tests if the United States suspends its annual military exercises with South Korea, President Barack Obama said Sunday that Washington isn’t taking the proposal seriously and Pyongyang would “have to do better than that.”

North Korean Foreign Minister Ri Su Yong, interviewed Saturday by the AP, also defended his country’s right to maintain a nuclear deterrent and warned that Pyongyang won’t be cowed by interna-

tional sanctions. And for those waiting for the North’s regime to collapse, he had this to say: Don’t hold your breath.

“Stop the nuclear war exercises in the Korean Peninsula, then we should also cease our nuclear tests,” he said in his first interview Saturday with a Western news organization.

Obama dismissed North Korea’s latest overture at a news conference Sunday with German Chancellor Angela Merkel in Hannover, Germany.

“We don’t take seriously a promise to simply halt until the next time they decide to do a test these kinds of activities,”

Obama said. “What we’ve said consistently ... is that if North Korea shows seriousness in denuclearizing the Korean Peninsula, then we’ll be prepared to enter into some serious conversations with them about reducing tensions and our approach to protecting our allies in the region. But that’s not something that happens based on a press release in the wake of a series of provocative behaviors. They’re going to have to do better than that.”

Obama also said that until North Korea does better, as he put it, the U.S. will continue to “emphasize our work with the Republic of Korea and Japan

and our missile defense mechanisms to ensure that we’re keeping the American people safe and we’re keeping our allies safe.”

Ri’s interview with the AP came just hours after North Korea test-fired a ballistic missile from a submarine in its latest show of defiance as this year’s U.S.-South Korea exercises wind down. He referred to the launch in the context of current tensions caused by the military exercises. “The escalation of this military exercise level has reached its top level. And I think it’s not bad — as the other side is going for the climax — why not us, too, to

University professor hacked to death in Bangladesh

NEW DELHI (AP)—A university professor on his way to work in northwestern Bangladesh was hacked to death Saturday in an attack similar to other killings by suspected Muslim militants, police said.

A.F.M. Rezaul Karim Siddique was attacked on his way to the state-run university in the city of Rajshahi, where he taught English, deputy police commissioner Nahidul Islam said. The attackers used sharp weapons and fled the scene immediately, Islam said.

The attack was similar to recent killings of atheist bloggers in Muslim-majority Bangladesh by radical Islamists.

The Islamic State group claimed responsibility for the attack, according to the SITE Intelligence Group, which monitors jihadi websites. No further details were available.

At least three other professors at Rajshahi University have been killed in recent years, allegedly by Islamist groups.

Sajidul Karim Siddique, a brother of the victim of Saturday’s attack, said the professor was a “very quiet and simple man” who was focused on studying and teaching. He led a cultural group

and used to edit a literary magazine.

“So far as we know, he did not have any known enemies and we never found him worried,” he said. “We don’t know why it happened to him.”

The government of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has been cracking down on militant groups, which it blames for deadly attacks in the past year on secular bloggers, minority Shiites, Christians and two foreigners. It accuses the opposition of supporting religious radicals in seeking to retaliate against the government for prosecuting suspected war crimes during the country’s 1971 independence war.

Some of the attacks were claimed by the Islamic State group, but the government dismisses those claims and says the Sunni extremist group has no presence in Bangladesh.

Following Saturday’s attack, hundreds of students and teachers marched on Rajshahi University’s campus and blocked a highway, demanding justice.

Amnesty International condemned the killing and said those responsible must be brought to justice.

ASIAN BRIEFS

China’s Xi warns against religious infiltration from abroad

BEIJING (AP)—Chinese President Xi Jinping says that China must be on guard against nefarious religious influences from abroad. His comments over the weekend follow a tightening of religious space that has seen bans on the wearing of veils and beards in the predominantly Muslim region of Xinjiang and the removal of church crosses in eastern China. “We must resolutely guard against overseas infiltrations via religious means and prevent ideological infringement by extremists,” Xi said at a Beijing conference on religions attended by top leaders, ac-

cording to the official Xinhua News Agency. He said that religious groups must submit to the leadership of the ruling, and officially atheist, Communist Party, and stressed: “In no way should religions interfere with government administration, judiciary and education.”

Australian teen charged with plotting alleged terror attack

SYDNEY (AP)—A teenager was charged with plotting a terrorist attack on an Australian Veteran’s Day ceremony, police said Monday, the second year in a row authorities say they have thwarted an attack linked to the national holiday. The 16-year-old boy was charged with one

count of planning a terrorist act after being arrested at his home in western Sydney on Sunday, one day before Australians across the country gathered at ceremonies to mark ANZAC Day. The annual holiday commemorates the April 25, 1915, Gallipoli landings in Turkey—the first major military action fought by the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps during World War I. Police believe the teen was acting alone, and he had previously been on authorities’ radar, New South Wales Police Commissioner Andrew Scipione said. The teen’s home was searched, but Scipione declined to say if anything was seized. He would not release any other details.

Chinese state media say 11 missing after coal mine floods

BEIJING (AP)—A coal mine flooded in northern China on Monday, leaving 11 miners missing, state media reported. The accident happened Monday morning in Tongchuan city in Shaanxi province, the official Xinhua News Agency said. A total of 67 workers were in the mine shaft but the rest managed to escape, Xinhua said, citing the Tongchuan city government. Rescuers were attempting to find the missing. China’s mines have long been the world’s deadliest, but safety improvements have reduced the number of deaths in recent years.

World

Egypt leader urges people to defend state ahead of protests

CAIRO (AP)—Egypt's president urged citizens to defend the state and its institutions from the “forces of evil” on Sunday, a day before planned demonstrations against his policies, including the transfer of two Red Sea islands to Saudi Arabia.

In a widely televised speech, Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi insisted on the need for stability in the Arab world’s most populous country, saying that attempts to degrade it “won’t be successful” if Egypt stands united.

“We must protect these institutions because these mean the state,” he said. “I am reiterating to the Egyptian people this is the responsibility of all of us, for us to protect this security and stability.”

Earlier this month, thousands marched against el-Sissi’s policies in the largest demonstrations since he assumed office in 2014. The protests featured slogans such as “leave,” and “down with the regime,” used in the 2011 uprising that toppled longtime leader Hosni Mubarak.

The protesters, including politicians and activists, called for more demonstrations on Monday, a national holiday

that commemorates the withdrawal of the last Israeli troops from the Sinai Peninsula in 1982 under the Camp David peace agreement.

The armed forces will deploy at vital sites Monday to prevent saboteurs from taking advantage of these protests, Egypt’s military spokesman Brig. Gen. Mohammed Samir said Sunday.

El-Sissi’s comments raise the possibility of large-scale counter-demonstrations that could turn violent, in addition to a potentially harsh police crackdown—especially if the demonstrators attempt to reach the heavily policed Tahrir Square.

Protests are essentially banned in Egypt under laws passed after el-Sissi led the military overthrow of his elected but divisive Islamist predecessor, Mohammed Morsi, in 2013.

A petition titled “Egypt is not for sale,” which calls for a reversal of the decision on the islands and supports the protests, was signed by more than 300 Egyptian novelists, lawyers and activists, and several calls have been made on social media for Monday’s demonstrations to con-



AP In this Friday, April 15, 2016 file photo, Egyptians shout slogans against Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi during a protest against the decision to hand over control of two strategic Red Sea islands to Saudi Arabia in front of the Press Syndicate, in Cairo, Egypt.

calls to create chaos and drive a wedge between the people and police.

The protests earlier this month were pegged to anger over el-Sissi’s decision to transfer sovereignty of the two islands to Saudi Arabia in a deal concluded in secret and announced during a visit by Saudi King Salman.

Many infuriated Egyptians accused the government of trading land for aid and investment from the oil-rich kingdom. The government insists the two islands, Tiran and Sanafir, always belonged to Saudi Arabia but were placed under Egyptian protection in 1950 because Riyadh feared they would be attacked by Israel.

verge on Tahrir Square, the epicenter of the 2011 revolt against Mubarak.

The Muslim Brotherhood said in a Sunday statement it supports the protests and is calling on people to join them.

Since Friday, security troops have been out in force, with armored personnel carriers stationed at key traffic

areas, while security agents have rounded up dozens of activists, journalists, and lawyers from their homes and cafes in downtown Cairo.

Two Interior Ministry spokesmen did not respond to repeated telephone calls seeking comment.

Also Sunday, Interior Minister Magdy Abdel-Ghaffar

met with officials to review preparations to confront any attempts to “break the law,” the ministry said in a statement. It quoted Abdel-Ghaffar as saying that the security apparatus would be ready to address any action that could disturb public security with “the utmost firmness and decisiveness,” urging citizens to ignore

Serbia's pro-EU populists win vote, initial projections show

BELGRADE, Serbia (AP)—The incumbent pro-European Union populists swept Serbia’s parliamentary election in a landslide Sunday, leaving pro-Russia nationalists far behind, according to preliminary unofficial results.

The triumph by Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic’s Progressive Party means Serbia will continue on its path toward EU membership despite opposition from right-wing parties, which seek close ties with traditional Slavic ally Russia instead.

“The election results today represent a strong support to our democracy, reforms and European integration,” Vucic told supporters in his victory

speech at party headquarters in Belgrade. “We have shown to ourselves and the world that Serbia is united in an attempt for a better future.”

The preliminary results released by the independent CESID polling agency show the Progressives winning 49 percent of the vote and their Socialists coalition partner with 11 percent. Two ultra-nationalist parties lagged far behind—the Radical Party with 8 percent and DSS-Dveri with 5 percent.

Three pro-Western opposition parties fragmented their support and were each hovering around the 5 percent threshold needed to win seats in parliament.

The polling firm based its projections on the actual vote count at representative polling stations. The first official results are expected later this week.

Djordje Vukovic from CESID said there might be slight changes from the preliminary results, but he said it’s clear that the Progressives will end up with a landslide victory.

“We are not happy, but that is what the people decided.

Our struggle will continue. Most important for us is that we have regained the parliamentary status,” said the Radical Party’s firebrand leader Vojislav Seselj, speaking to supporters at his party’s Belgrade headquarters.

Seselj, who was acquitted of war crimes last month by an international tribunal in the Hague, Netherlands, will be returning to parliament after the Radical Party apparently cleared the threshold needed for parliamentary representation.

Once the strongest party in Serbia, the Radicals failed to win any seats in the last election in 2014 at a time Seselj was on trial before the tribunal.

Other opposition parties claimed there were irregularities in Sunday’s election.

“We don’t have the democracy that we had before 2012,” said former Serbian President Boris Tadic, leader of the pro-Western Social Democrats.

Report: Mexican police tortured suspects in students' case

MEXICO CITY (AP)—There is strong evidence that Mexican police tortured some of the key suspects arrested in the disappearance of 43 students, according to a report released Sunday by an outside group of experts.

The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights expert group says that a study of 17 of the approximately 123 suspects arrested in the case showed signs of beatings, including, in some cases, dozens of bruises, cuts and scrapes.

One suspect said he was nearly asphyxiated with a plastic bag, and medical studies showed another had been slapped on the ears so hard his

eardrums broke and his ears bled.

The Mexican government recently released documents suggesting investigations had been opened against police and military personnel, but authorities have not answered requests about whether anyone has been arrested or charged.

The 43 students at the radical teachers’ college of Ayotzinapa have not been heard from since they were taken by local

police in September 2014 in the city of Iguala, Guerrero state. Family members and supporters of the missing

students chanted “They took them away alive, we want them back alive!” at the news conference where the report was presented.

No high-ranking officials attended the presentation of the report, which called the government’s investigation flawed and incomplete. But President Enrique Pena Nieto wrote in his Twitter account that the federal attorney general’s office “will analyze the whole report, to aid in its investigations.”

Mexico’s deputy attorney general for human rights, Eber Betanzos, said authorities were investigating complaints filed by 31 people who said they had been tortured; he said six criminal cases had been opened, and had that three in-

Poland buries remains of World War II resistance commander

WARSAW, Poland (AP)—Poland’s president and government ministers attended the state burial Sunday of a World War II resistance commander and communist regime victim whose remains were found in a hidden mass grave.

The funeral at Warsaw’s Powazki military cemetery was part of democratic Poland’s efforts to remind the nation about facts and figures from the past that were taboo themes under decades of communism—for example, resistance against the regime and the persecution it was met with.

The current conservative government of the Law and Justice party is especially focused on honoring wartime and communist-era independence fighters who were imprisoned, executed and secretly dumped in unmarked mass graves by the communist regime in the 1940s and ‘50s. Only a few of the graves have been found.

One of the victims was Col. Zygmunt Szendzielarz, codename “Lupaszka,” who was executed in a Warsaw prison in 1951, aged 41. An

officer of a mounted regiment, he fought against the Nazi German and Soviet invasion in September 1939 and later led an underground resistance movement.

He continued his fight for Poland’s sovereignty after communism was imposed on Poland in 1945. Secret security agents arrested him in 1948 and he was given a death sentence.

“Today, 65 years later, as we honor Col. Szendzielarz with these ceremonies, we are giving Poland its dignity back,” President Andrzej Duda said during a funeral Mass at the Powazki church.

“Dignity that was trampled by those who tortured and murdered” Szendzielarz.

“Today, Poland has top authorities who remember, honor and appreciate” such fighters, Duda said.

Szendzielarz’s remains were found in 2013 among dozens of others, buried in sand under wild grass in a Powazki corner. Szendzielarz and some others were identified through DNA tests. A white stone memorial has been since put up at the site.

volved employees of the attorney general’s office.

Betanzos called the case “the most exhaustive investigation in the history of Mexican law enforcement.”

But the allegations of torture could endanger any chance of convictions in one of the highest-profile human rights cases in Mexican history, especially because the government’s version of events—that corrupt police handed the students over to drug gang members who killed them and burned their bodies at a trash dump—hangs in large part on the testimony of some drug gunmen who now say they were tortured into confessing.

Overdrive

AUTO REVIEW:

2016 Lincoln MKX

has the engine to return to the spotlight

By TERRY BOX
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

Lincoln got lost in the late 1990s, disappearing beneath the relentless waves of sleek BMWs and Bentzes and Audis washing ashore.

It just couldn't swim, dragged down by a heavy legacy of vinyl tops and wire-wheel hubcaps and gauche gold trim when people wanted performance and Euro panache.

Even with the early success of the big Navigator SUV, Lincoln appeared bound for the bottom, another also-ran, lot lizard sedan.

That seemed especially harsh for a storied old brand founded by Henry Ford in 1917, a marque that once made giant seem graceful and boldly put suicide doors on its star 1961 Continental.

But as you may have heard, Lincoln wants badly to resurface in the luxury segment—ready like Duran Duran to get out of those tacky motel bars and embark on a grand return tour.

Last year, it introduced the chiseled and fairly impressive MKC, a near-luxury compact crossover based on a Ford Escape.

The MKC was joined this year by the MKX, a midsize crossover that, like the MKC, is based on a mainstream platform (the Ford Edge) but treated to fresh styling, a retuned engine and vastly better interior.

I suppose it says a lot about this



The 2016 Lincoln MKX.
TNS

faux-trucky era we're in that Lincoln chose two crossovers—two soft, sort-of SUVs—to get its wagon back on the road.

(Please don't let anyone cart my sorry ashes to the dragstrip in a crossover. The back seat of an evil, bad-mannered '40 Ford will do just fine.)

At least the dark brown 2016 Black Label MKX I had recently felt high-end and quietly distinctive—two qualities Lincoln wants all of its new vehicles to convey. (The crossovers, incidentally, will be joined by a new Continental sedan this fall.)

First, though, I've got to tell you that the \$67,000 window sticker on my MKX absolutely stunned me.

Granted, the Black Label is the top-of-the-line MKX, but that's a mighty high price for a vehicle that must compete with the \$55,000 Lexus RX350—and certainly can't claim that it's back on top.

Still, the MKX offers a lot, starting with better styling than the Lexus. Gone, for example, is the MKX's former waterfall grille, replaced by a more graceful split grille with horizontal bars that abut large, sweeping headlamps.

The trucklet's broad hood looked a bit busy to me, with four lines carved into it. But the thick sides flashed some nice muscle, thanks to a prominent character line up high that kicked up above the back door handle, forming a small shoulder.

Moreover, short overhangs and a

sleek, slightly curved top made the MKX look taut for a 4,700-pound vehicle.

In back, in a nod to Lincoln tradition, wrap-around taillamps were joined by a thin, lighted red band that ran the full length of the rear.

Likewise, 10-spoke, 20-inch wheels shod with meaty 245/50 tires added to the MKX's substantial presence.

BEST PART: THE ENGINE

While all of that makes for a strong start, I thought the best feature in the MKX—the item that really distinguishes it from the RX350—resided under the hood.

Lincoln took the energetic 2.7-liter EcoBoost V-6 that Ford developed for its new F-150 pickup, retuned it to 335 horsepower and tied it to a six-speed automatic tranny.

The little engine's big turbocharged power gets delivered with authority through a civilized all-wheel-drive system.

Prod the engine hard, and it responds quickly without any noticeable turbo lag, lunging to 60 in a highly respectable 6 seconds, according to Car and Driver.

That's about a second quicker than the segment-leading Lexus, and more important, the EcoBoost motor felt bigger and stronger than its size throughout its broad power band.

Likewise, unfortunately, it put up fuel economy numbers like a V-

8's—a modest 17 miles per gallon in town and 24 on the highway.

Also, sometimes when I was cruising down the expressway, admiring its rich diversity of billboards, the engine would seem a little soft if I needed to step into it to pass someone.

So I learned to push harder, forcing the transmission to downshift and sending us off to the races again, riding a satisfying wave of power all the way to 6,000 rpm.

Like most luxury and near-luxury vehicles, the MKX carried a full load of nannies, including active-park assist, a front-video camera, an irritating lane-keeping system and adaptive cruise control.

'QUIET LUXURY'

Lincoln's goal with its new vehicles is to provide "quiet luxury" and as you would expect, the MKX moves with the sort of hushed refinement once associated with the old Town Car.

Unlike the Town Car, though, the MKX turns into corners cleanly and with a fair amount of grip.

Granted, it's no Ford GT. But if you do get into some mountain twisties—and you may have to drive a half-day to do that—the MKX won't make everyone car sick with its softness.

Body lean was surprisingly minimal, and the steering felt about right—well-weighted with good road feel.

Meanwhile, the light brown interior in the MKX ranked a close second to the engine, and that comes from someone who would happily walk six blocks in 100-degree heat just to hear a salty engine idle.

It started with the rich, slightly pliable brown dashboard that curved over the instrument panel and rolled down onto the glove compartment.

A medium-size display screen topped a large center stack, fitted on the left side with five buttons—P, R, N, D and S—for controlling the transmission.

Shades of Edsel, I suppose, though I preferred it to the unnatural-feeling electric shifters in German cars.

Nice-looking, subtle slashes of dark wood trimmed the edges of the console and the padded door panels, and the leather seats in the MKX looked like furniture.

Stitched in a flat tone of medium-brown leather, they offered supportive bolsters and perforated centers. In addition, leg-and head-room in back were good, even for normal-size Americans.

It may all be working. Through February, Lincoln's sales were up 19 percent, paced by the MKC and MKX.

For a while there, in the really lean years, I wondered if Lincoln was hiding out in Des Moines or Toledo or some other meat-and-potato town, waiting for the Germans to go home.

Lincoln, I think, is back in the sun.

Under the Hood: 2012 Equinox is a real hassle to start

By BRAD BERGHOLDT
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

QI have a 2012 Chevrolet Equinox I purchased new. It immediately began to have intermittent starting problems, and they have developed into consistent problems. I took it to the dealership at 12,000 miles and 18,000 miles. Checks at those times produced no diagnostic trouble codes, and the shop workers could not duplicate the problem. The vehicle has 45,600 miles now.

When you turn the key, the engine begins to fire, but once you release the key, the engine stops running (as it has never fully started). Sometimes it takes as many five to 10 starting attempts to get the car fully running.

The folks at the dealership said the battery needed replacing, so I took the vehicle to another shop, where the employees told me the battery is fine but that the vehicle needed a new under-hood fuse box or a new ignition switch. They aren't even sure if either of these will fix the problem. What do you think?

—Joe Perras

AI can only imagine your frustration!

The way I would try to fix this is to reconnect a homemade breakout box to five or six key engine circuits and have this ready to go along with a scan tool set up to capture a movie of engine data from a no-start event. The breakout box consists of six-strand phone cord with alligator clips at one end and a Radio Shack hobby box with

jacks at the other end. T-pins are inserted into key engine circuits (back of connectors, and color coded alligator clips to each T-pin) that aren't monitored or displayed on the scan tool and may be difficult to quickly access during a fleeting event. Examples are ignition- and fuel-related powers and grounds, power to the high pressure fuel pump, et cetera. The breakout box is pre-connected and tucked away under-hood, awaiting the next event.

The long cord allows the box to be brought in an open window and the circuits viewed from inside, while underway—if needed.

A scan tool movie, pre-armed, desired parameters chosen, is taken at the time of a no-start event, allowing the preceding 15 seconds, the trigger point, and following 15 seconds to be captured for later

diagnosis. Items of interest would be rpm (validates crankshaft position sensor signal and serves as a time reference for other signals as it fluctuates), fuel pump command, fuel injector pulse width, and mass airflow sensor signal, immobilizer fuel disable, among others.

If you can help establish any sort of pattern to the no-start events: ambient and engine temperature, humidity, time while parked, which key is used, et cetera, this may help a technician duplicate the symptom more readily. These are the types of problems that keep the job interesting for a drivability technician. The thrill of conquering a devious problem more than makes up for the headaches and hair pulled!

I took some heat for mentioning some

Altima drivers found reducing tire pressure a few pounds helped reduce high speed twitchiness. Under-inflation by more than a couple of pounds can cause problems with a tire, depending on load, speed, and temperature. With tire pressure monitoring systems lulling folks into a sense of false security and not checking pressure as frequently as they should, and possibly a dose of "if a little is good, a lot is better," this should not have been mentioned.

ABOUT THE WRITER

Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. Readers may send him email at [under-the-hood\(at\)earthlink.net](mailto:under-the-hood(at)earthlink.net); he cannot make personal replies.

Life & Style

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Sunshine Café, a project that started almost a year ago in Hong Kong, opened Thursday night giving locals and tourists alike a new place to hang out. And it lived up to its name, with the interior offering a bright, cozy, and warm feeling as you enjoy their house specials and other regular items on their menu.

Raymond Chan, Maria Lingewaren, and Amanda Zhang make up the team behind Sunshine Café—the other half of the investment of six Chinese celebrities on Saipan the other being Hot No. 1 Restaurant located on the second floor.

Lingewaren said she was in charge of hiring people, while Zhang took care of the design and layout of Sunshine Café. “One of our first hires were the head chef and the manager in February. Pastry chef Su Shuang then trained the kitchen staff.”

Su, whose name means

Sunshine Café, new hangout in Garapan

sugar in Chinese according to Lingewaren, is a two-star Michelin Chef from Hong Kong that has more than 10 years of experience. Richard Santos was hired as the head chef and he trained under the strict guidance of Su, and at the same time also learned the Szechuan style of cooking and presentation of food.

But Lingewaren said she wants to first talk about Sunshine Café. The idea began sometime in November 2015 when she came to Saipan for a visit. She said that she had not eaten a good dessert on the island during her stay.

“We want to offer something new, something fresh,



Signature desserts and pastries made by chef Su. We also wanted to offer quick and healthy snacks and meals for people who just want to grab

them and go,” said Lingewaren.

“We want to provide the best service that’s why we

see to it that every little detail is almost perfect. We wanted to have satisfied customers from the moment they ordered their food. We want them to step out pleased with their experience here,” added Lingewaren.

She said all of their prices are reasonable with the ingredients all bought locally. Well, except for some of the pastries as they imported chocolates from Switzerland.

For Sunshine Café, Su created four signature desserts—Door of Forbidden City, Raspberry Pistachio Macaroons, Dark Chocolate Lolli, and Lemon Citrus Tart—made from dark and white Swiss

chocolates. Su thought of the Door of Forbidden City from a restaurant in Beijing that is located in front of the East Gate of the historic former palace of the Chinese Emperor. The tart is made from white chocolate that has lemon citrus inside.

Aside from pastries, Sunshine Café also offers salads, sandwiches, and lots of specialty drinks including tropical smoothies. They would also introduce the Pumpkin Latte, which Lingewaren said locals would surely love.

The Te Kanahanunui or the Petlas Marianas provides entertainment with traditional and other Pacific island dances. The event also served as a warm up with the group part of the CNMI delegation that would attend next month’s Festival of the Pacific Arts in Guam.

Sunshine Café is located beside Winchell’s in Garapan in front of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

For reservation and other inquiries, call 233-8300.



DONNA RIVERA
Lucky patrons who attended last Thursday's opening of Sunshine Café had a sample of their Tuna and Egg Sandwich.



DONNA RIVERA
Red Door Fruit Cheesecake is based from the East Gate of the Forbidden City in Beijing.



White Chocolate Citrus Tart. DONNA RIVERA



DONNA RIVERA
The Chocolate Mandarin Lolly is made from a dark chocolate imported from Switzerland.



DONNA RIVERA
Sunshine Café also offers pastries and other sweets.



DONNA RIVERA
Raspberry Pistachio Macaroons, one of four signature cakes made by Michelin Star pastry Chef Su Shuang.

'Huntsman' sequel misfires; 'Jungle Book' reigns

LOS ANGELES (AP) — "The Jungle Book" remained king of the box office in its second weekend in theaters, beating new opener "The Huntsman: Winter's War" by around \$40 million, according to comScore estimates Sunday.

Disney's live-action/CG spectacle is proving to be a true all-audience success

1. "The Jungle Book," \$60.8 million (\$96 million international).
2. "The Huntsman: Winter's War," \$20.1 million (\$32.1 million international).
3. "Barbershop: The Next Cut," \$10.8 million.
4. "Zootopia," \$6.6 million (\$10.8 million international).
5. "The Boss," \$6.1 million (\$3.3 million international).
6. "Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice," \$5.5 million (\$8.3 million international).
7. "Criminal," \$3.1 million (\$1 million international).
8. "My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2," \$2.1 million (\$730,000 international).
9. "Compadres," \$1.4 million.
10. "A Hologram for the King," \$1.2 million.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at international theaters (excluding the U.S. and Canada), according to comScore:

1. "The Jungle Book," \$96 million.
2. "The Huntsman: Winter's War," \$32.1 million.
3. "Zootopia," \$10.8 million.
4. "Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice," \$8.3 million.
5. "Crew," \$5 million.
6. "Kung Fu Panda 3," \$4.6 million.
7. "The Boss," \$3.3 million.
8. "My New Sassy Girl," \$2.8 million.
9. "Eddie the Eagle," \$2.7 million.
10. "Eye in the Sky," \$2 million.

story. With a PG-rating and solid word of mouth, it fell only 41 percent in weekend two, earning \$60.8 million and bumping its domestic total to \$191.5 million in just 10 days in theaters.

The spectacular and somewhat unexpected hold of "The Jungle Book" overshadowed the debut of "The Huntsman: Winter's War," which, despite its high-wattage cast of Chris Hemsworth, Charlize Theron, Emily Blunt and Jessica Chastain, had a somewhat lackluster



the audience appeal that it has, I think there's a chance we're going to play out a bit better than that word (flop) would indicate."

"Barbershop: The Next Cut" landed in third place with \$10.8 million in its second weekend in theaters. "Zootopia" and "The Boss" rounded out the top five with \$6.6 million and \$6.1 million, respectively.

But this weekend, up 29.3 percent from last year, is all about "The Jungle Book." Dergarabedian noted that it could actually help jump-start the summer movie season too. The year is already up 9.2 percent, and now the big "Jungle Book" audiences are being exposed to all of the trailers for the upcoming season that kicks off with the launch of "Captain America: Civil War" in the first week of May.

"Just like 'Furious 7' last year, 'The Jungle Book' is providing a great lead-in for a really big summer movie season," Dergarabedian said.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to comScore. Where available, the latest international numbers for Friday through Sunday are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

In this image released by Universal Pictures, Emily Blunt, left and Charlize Theron appear in a scene from "Huntsman: Winter's War."

\$20.1 million bow.

The movie cost \$115 million to produce and is a follow-up to the 2012 fairy tale fantasy "Snow White and the Huntsman," this time focused on Hemsworth's character. The first film was budgeted at \$170 million, earned \$56.2 million in its debut and went on to gross \$396.6 million worldwide.

There are a number of factors that may have contributed to the uninspiring performance

of the sequel, one of which is the absence of original star Kristen Stewart, comScore senior analyst Paul Dergarabedian noted. "Snow White and the Huntsman" launched in June 2012—right in between the releases of the final two "Twilight" films.

"She was a key reason for the opening of that first film," Dergarabedian said. "That was going to be a tough act to follow."

"The Huntsman" also failed

to impress critics and is hovering around 17 percent on Rotten Tomatoes. Opening weekend audiences, however, gave the film a more promising B+ CinemaScore.

"I would have liked more people to go see ours, but I certainly wouldn't call it a flop either," said Nick Carapou, Universal's president of domestic distribution. "The final chapter of this one has not been written, but with a B+ CinemaScore and

'Me and Mrs. Jones' singer Billy Paul dead at age 80

NEW YORK (AP) — Billy Paul, a jazz and soul singer best known for the No. 1 hit ballad and "Philadelphia Soul" classic "Me and Mrs. Jones," died Sunday.

Paul, whose career spanned for more than 60 years, died at his home in Blackwood, New Jersey, his co-manager, Beverly Gay, told The Associated Press. Paul, 80, had been diagnosed recently with pancreatic cancer, Gay said.

Known by his beard and large glasses, Paul was one of many singers who found success with the writing and producing team of Kenneth Gamble and Leon Huff, whose Philadelphia International Records also released music by the O'Jays, Harold Melvin & the Blue Notes, and Lou Rawls.

"Me and Mrs. Jones" was an extramarital confession and a characteristic Gamble and Huff production, setting Paul's thick tenor against a lush and sensuous arrangement. Many fans best remember the moment when Paul's otherwise subtle vocals jump as they reach the title words, stretching out "Me" and "And" into multiple syllables and repeat-



In this Feb. 6, 2008, file photo, Leon A. Huff, cofounder and vice chairman of Philadelphia International Records, left, singer Billy Paul, center, and Kenneth Gamble, arrive at "A Special Evening of Conversation Insight and Music" in Los Angeles.

ing "Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Jones." (Paul himself was married to the same woman for decades).

Paul's voice made him "one of the great artists to come out of Philly and to be celebrated worldwide," Gamble and Huff said in a statement late Sunday.

"Our proudest moment with Billy was the recording of the salacious smash 'Me and Mrs. Jones.' In our view, it is one of the greatest love songs ever recorded," they said.

The song was one of the top singles of 1972 and brought Paul a Grammy the following year for best male rhythm

'n blues performance, with runners-up including Ray Charles and Curtis Mayfield. Paul remained identified with the song for the rest of his life.

Paul continued to perform live until he fell ill and his manager said he had been lining up numerous appearances at the time of his death.

Among his favorites in concert was a cover of Prince's "Purple Rain." (Prince died last Thursday).

He was born Paul Williams but later agreed to his manager's suggestion that he change his name to Billy Paul to avoid confusion with songwriter Paul Williams and other musicians with the same name. A Philadelphia native, he sang much of his life, performing with such jazz stars as Charlie Parker and Dinah Washington and being featured on a handful of singles while still in his teens.

Paul was drafted into the military in his early 20s, and found himself on the same base in Germany with a couple of famous show business names, Elvis Presley and Gary Crosby, Bing Crosby's son.

"We said we're going to start a band, so we didn't have to do any hard work in the service," he told bluesandsoul.com in 2015. "We tried to get Elvis to join but he wanted to be a jeep driver. So me and Gary Crosby, we started it and called ourselves the Jazz Blues Symphony Band."

By the mid-1960s, the Beatles had inspired him to incorporate more rhythm 'n blues into his singing and he had

found a new home for his recordings after meeting Gamble at a Philadelphia music shop. His early albums with Gamble and Huff, including "Ebony Woman" and "Going East," sold modestly, before "Me and Mrs. Jones" briefly made him a superstar.

Paul faced numerous obstacles following his biggest hit. Radio stations resisted his more socially conscious follow-up song, "Am I Black Enough for You" and the Rev. Jesse Jackson was among those who objected to the explicit "Let's Make a Baby."

Years later, Paul sued Gamble and Huff and other industry officials over unpaid royalties and was awarded \$500,000 by a Los Angeles jury in 2003.

Paul is survived by his wife, Blanche Williams, with whom he had two children. Although he endured many difficult moments with Gamble and Huff, he would look back on those years as a lost golden age.

"It was like a family full of music," he told bluesandsoul.com. "It was like music round the clock, you know. And I reminisce and I still wish those days were here."

Prince's final shows: Intimate, playful with a Bowie tribute

ATLANTA (AP)—The crowd at Atlanta's Fox Theater was on its feet screaming. Prince had already taken an encore, but he'd only played for just over an hour and he hadn't even played "Purple Rain."

This show could not be over.

He walked back onstage toward his purple grand piano and began singing:

"I, I will be king."

"And you, you will be queen."

This wasn't a Prince song, this was "Heroes." It was a low-key memorial from one icon who changed music with inventiveness and daring sexuality to another—David Bowie, who died in January.

After one more encore, about 80 minutes of total music, Prince left the stage to prepare for his second show.

This would be the last night he ever performed.

There aren't many musicians who could pull together a night of music the way Prince did this one—both spontane-



ous and meticulously planned. He announced his shows just eight days before he was to play. Tickets went on sale the next day, with the cheapest costing well over \$100, with fees. To prevent scalping, fans could only buy two and had to pick them up in person at the

Sales of Prince songs, albums spike after superstar's death

Sales of Prince's music have skyrocketed since the artist's death last week.

According to Nielsen Music, in the three days following his death there were 2.3 million Prince song sales, including nearly 1 million on Thursday.

Sales were led by "Purple Rain," followed by "When Doves Cry," "Little Red Corvette" and "Let's Go Crazy."

Albums sales were led by

"The Very Best Of Prince."

The 57-year-old singer was found dead Thursday at his Paisley Park compound in suburban Minneapolis. An autopsy was conducted Friday. Authorities said it could be weeks before the cause of death is released.

Carver County Sheriff Jim Olson said Prince's body had no signs of violence and there was nothing to suggest suicide. (AP)

Douglas dons purple in honor of Prince at Tribeca Film Fest

NEW YORK (AP)—Michael Douglas paid simple homage to Prince at the Tribeca Film Festival with his attire: a matching purple shirt and pullover V-neck sweater.

"He was such a private man, protected his work so much," he said Saturday night. "But he was an extraordinary talent, just an extraordinary talent. I really feel a loss."

Besides being a fan, Douglas has a connection to Prince: he gave him his 1985 Academy Award for Best Music, Original Song Score for "Purple Rain."

Douglas was at the festival to help filmmakers Smriti Keshari and Eric Schlosser promote their multimedia installation, "The Bomb." The immersive experience, which closed the festival, puts the viewer in the middle of the film, which is displayed on

screens around them while a live band plays in the center.

"I think this film, 'The Bomb' and the presentation, how beautifully it's done, is gonna bring in hopefully a

new generation of younger people to make them conscious of the most important issue in our life that is least talked about," Douglas said.

Douglas feels the less we

sides of the stage and a massive screen of ever changing kaleidoscopic projections at the back.

Prince entered with a cane that seemed all style and no function, and cut through the smoke billowing across the stage to his piano.

He began with a medley of "Little Red Corvette" and "Dirty Mind" that somehow transformed into the Peanuts theme of "Linus and Lucy."

In the middle of songs, he'd take one hand off the keys to scroll through a tablet perched on top of his piano.

He briefly mentioned begging his jazz pianist dad to teach him piano, and he apologized for having postponed the show. But he didn't speak much.



In this image made from video, Michael Douglas, center, sits with filmmakers Smriti Keshari, left, and Eric Schlosser, Saturday, April 23, 2016, in New York. AP

It's best to meet online crush on woman's familiar ground

DEAR ABBY: For the last five months I have been talking to a guy I met via a dating app. We live a few states apart and have yet to meet in person, but we communicate regularly.

With my tax refund this year, I'd like to do something for me. He suggested that I visit him. I don't get any red flags from him, and I'm sure I'd be 100 percent safe while I'm there. However, I'm anxious about taking a trip by myself to visit a guy I've developed a massive crush on.

I have thought about offering to pay his way here instead, or simply not going at all. I asked my friends and family for their opinions. Some of them think I should go, while others say I should pay his way here. I need advice from an outsider's perspective.

CONFUSED AND CRUSHING

DEAR C&C: I vote for having your friend come and visit you the first time you meet. That way your family and friends can meet him, and if your massive crush doesn't live up to your expectations, you won't be alone in a strange city and at a disadvantage.

DEAR ABBY: I live in a house with my husband, his 11-year-old son and my husband's father. I am pregnant with my first child and I get cravings for chocolate. I sometimes hide my special chocolates in my armoire so I don't have to worry about my sugar-crazed son getting to them.

However, I have recently found out that he goes through my things to find the goodies and helps himself. I feel he has stepped over the line and violated my privacy. My husband and I have confronted him about it more than once, and each time he lies and argues before he eventually admits it.

We have talked to him about privacy and make sure to give him his privacy in his room. How can we turn his behavior around and make him see that he is being disrespectful toward me?

PREGNANT CHOCOLATE LOVER

DEAR CHOCOLATE LOVER: There should be consequences for misbehavior, and they should be explained to the boy. He should also understand there will be more severe consequences for lying to cover it up. Because you know the boy cannot be trusted, put a lock on the closet or cupboard where you stow your stash, or on your bedroom door.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been happily married for 38 years. Almost everything is great, except that the wife of his best friend, "Ted," has the hots for my husband. We all get along well, but it's obvious her interest is mostly in my husband, not me.

Ted has no idea his wife feels this way, but several people have pointed it out, and I have observed the way she acts. I have talked to my husband about it. He in no way is interested in her.

DEAR ABBY
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



I would never want to jeopardize my husband's friendship with Ted, and I enjoy being friends with them both, but I'm uncomfortable about her feelings for my husband. Can I say something to her and let her know how I feel without ruining the friendship with her or the one my husband has with Ted?

SITUATION IN AUSTIN, TEXAS

DEAR SITUATION: Probably not. While it wouldn't change the relationship your husband has with Ted, if you address this with his wife and tell her you know she has been lustful after your husband, it's sure to cause embarrassment. And that's not conducive to a close friendship.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

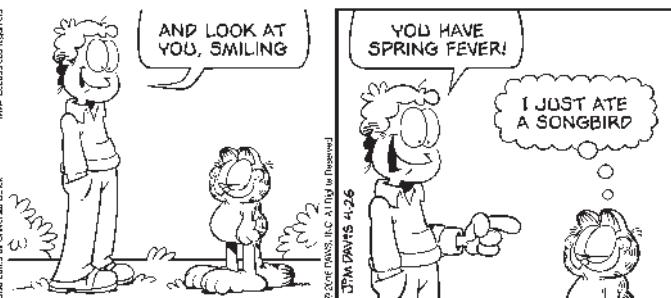


By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



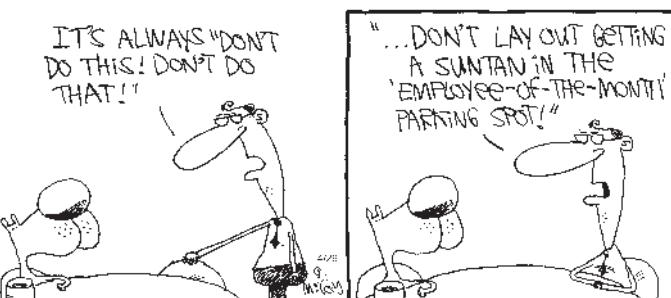
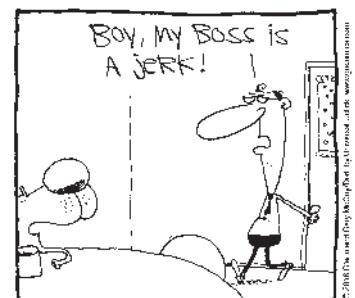
Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	36	7-day stretches	DOWN	23	Bit of wit
1	Prosperous period	38 Speck	1 Hoedown	24	Half of dos
5	Science room	39 Do wrong	2 Black-and-white cookie	25	Actress Tyler
8	Italian wine region	40 Unemotional	3 Till bills	26	Gun lobby org.
12	Flor- ence's river	43 Reporter's need	4 Catwalk walkers	27	Born
13	"Eureka!"	47 Arm of the Atlantic	5 Island porch	28	Antlered grazer
14	Any time now	49 Prego rival	6 "Hey, sailor!"	29	Golfer Ernie
15	Observe insert	50 Bullets	7 Sheepish remark	31	Classic sandwich, for short
16	Biblical vessel	51 Speed (up)	8 Home of St. Francis	34	Newspaper chief
18	Small bouquet	52 Pleased	9 Fly high	35	Scottish lake
20	Buenos —	53 Equal	10 Ripped	36	Humorist
21	Floral ring	54 Citric beverage	11 Pen fluids	37	Vigor
22	— Doubtfire	55 Days gone by	17 Injure	39	Italian wine
23	Sign of life	19 "Gosh!"	19 "Gosh!"	40	Cinch
26	Oscar candidate	22 Cattle call	22	41	Heavy reading?
30	Half of bi-			42	"Coffee, Tea —?" (book)
31	A sib			43	Requirement
32	Right angle			44	— Alto, Calif.
33	"Of Mice and Men," for one			45	Lab gel
				46	Ranch visitor
				48	Madrid Mrs.

Solution time: 22 mins.



Yesterday's answer 4-26

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jemima Kirke, 31; Channing Tatum, 36; Tom Welling, 39; Kevin James, 51.

Happy Birthday: Set your mind on what you want to accomplish this year, and you will succeed. Planning, preparation and knowing exactly how you are going to distribute funds will keep you on top of your game and ready to excel. Love is highlighted, and discussions about a long-term commitment or sharing a life goal will lead to positive personal changes. Your numbers are 6, 17, 20, 23, 32, 36, 42.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Travel will entice you. Whether you visit an unfamiliar destination in your vicinity or travel a great distance, the experience and the encounters you have will affect you positively. Romance is encouraged. ★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Look for alternative career options. If you feel you need a change, explore a past interest to see if you can turn it into a side business. Self-awareness and personal improvement will bring good results. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't let anyone make you feel guilty or put demands on you. Getting involved in dubious schemes or picking up a bad habit will slow you down and play havoc with your emotional well-being. Focus on being the best you can be. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You'll come up with an interesting idea or concept that will get a good response from a

friend or relative who wants to be a part of your plan. Conversations and collaboration will get you one step closer to your objective. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You'll be eager to bring about changes and to engage in pastimes that are challenging and exciting. Romance is in the stars, and taking affirmative steps will lead to a promise that you'll be happy to uphold. Enjoy the ride. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Make changes at home that will free up your time. You are advised to keep a safe distance from anyone who is asking for too much from you. Learning and expanding your awareness will give you the strength to say "no." ★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Keep your money in a safe place and think twice before you spend. Put more time and effort into your relationships with children, friends or your loved ones. You don't need to spend money in order to prove how much you care. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Make a change at home that will be conducive to starting a new enterprise in a field you enjoy to help bring in extra cash. Use your imagination and market what you have to offer. Someone who loves you will offer you incentives. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't give in or give up. You can make a difference if you stand up for your rights. Instead of getting angry, focus on the positive changes that you can make. Say little and do a lot. Be an instigator, not an observer. ★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't worry about what everyone else is doing. Take care of your responsibilities. Strive to take the steps to make your personal life more comfortable. Use your imagination and you'll find a way to keep your costs low. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): It's up to you to bring about changes. Don't wait for someone else to make a move or tell you what to do. Discipline, innovation and imagination will help you stand out and make a difference. Romance is encouraged. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Keep track of your expenditures and what you owe to others. It's important to know where you stand financially when dealing with joint ventures and partnerships. Don't overpay or try to buy love or popularity. ★★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY



COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't worry about what everyone else is doing. Take care of your responsibilities. Strive to take the steps to make your personal life more comfortable. Use your imagination and you'll find a way to keep your costs low. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): It's up to you to bring about changes. Don't wait for someone else to make a move or tell you what to do. Discipline, innovation and imagination will help you stand out and make a difference. Romance is encouraged. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Keep track of your expenditures and what you owe to others. It's important to know where you stand financially when dealing with joint ventures and partnerships. Don't overpay or try to buy love or popularity. ★★★

Birthday Baby: You are quick, progressive and competitive. You are entertaining and free-spirited.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

8	6	3	9						
5		9				6			
	9		2						
3		6	9	5					
	1				6				
2	4	7				1			
		2		1					
4		8				7			
3	1	9	5						

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

1	3	2	9	7	5	6	8	4
4	6	7	1	8	3	2	5	9
8	9	5	6	4	2	7	3	1
5	4	3	2	1	8	9	6	7
6	2	8	3	9	7	4	1	5
9	7	1	4	5	6	3	2	8
3	8	4	7	2	1	5	9	6
2	1	9	5	6	4	8	7	3
7	5	6	8	3	9	1	4	2

Difficulty Level ★★★

4/26

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle—horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

METALLOIDS

A	C	H	L	O	R	I	N	E	N	I	D	O	I	S
G	S	E	R	U	T	X	I	M	N	O	B	R	A	C
E	E	M	F	L	U	O	R	I	N	E	R	U	P	I
N	A	L	U	M	I	N	U	M	K	C	O	L	B	P
T	U	M	I	R	U	L	L	E	T	M	A	I	O	
S	T	A	I	R	S	T	E	P	F	H	I	N	O	L
B	S	I	L	I	C	O	N	G	A	A	N	O	L	O
E	S	L	A	T	E	M	E	C	S	L	E	G	O	N
R	E	G	R	Y	E	R	G	Y	O	L	L	A	G	I
Y	L	A	S	O	M	D	B	B	L	I	B	I	I	U
L	E	L	E	A	N	I	O	D	I	U	A	D	C	M
L	N	L	N	Z	U	R	N	C	D	M				

CLASSIFIED ADS



JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Clinical Embryologist

Must have 2 years lab experience, plus experience in clinical embryology.
Salary Negotiable.
Call Karen at 322-0419

PACIFIC ISLAND CLEANING AGENCY

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(3) General Maintenance**(5) Commercial Cleaner**

Must have 5 years experience.
Please send resume to PO Box 502670
Koblerville, Saipan, MP 96950
E-mail: hectorsablan@yahoo.com

www.saipantribune.com
WANTED**Cement Supervisor**

Salary: \$7.73 per hour
Must have cement handling equipment experience

Apply in person at
Hanson Micronesia Cement Inc., Puerto Rico

Cement Laborer

Cement handling equipment experience preferred.
Will train motivated individuals
Wages based on experience

Apply in person at
Hanson Micronesia Cement Inc.
Tel: 670 322-3333

Hanson Micronesia Cement, Inc. - Saipan**Terminal Manager****Responsibilities:**

- Supervise daily operations of a cement distribution terminal
- Communicate effectively with our customers
- Safely operate equipment to discharge cement from vessels and load customer trucks
- Do periodic maintenance/trouble shoot all terminal equipment
- Prepare all paperwork to accompany loads and keep daily and monthly inventory records
- Ensure all employee are trained and follow safe work practices and procedures; consistent with company policies and OSHA standards

Requirements:

- Minimum of 2-4 years' experience in cement or related industry preferred
- Excellent communication skills (oral and written)
- Good organizational skills
- Prepared to work flexible hours, including some weekends, nights, and holidays
- Clerical skills a plus
- College degree preferred (or equivalent by experience)

Please submit resume by email to derek.sadler@hanson.biz.

WHATZIT Solution: The customer is always right

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS

- 3-Liner
- 5-Liner

COMBO

- | | | |
|---------|------|------|
| (PRINT) | \$15 | \$30 |
| | \$24 | \$45 |

ADVERTISING DEADLINE**Classified Ads**

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION**Classified Ads**

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

**BUYER
PATRON
CLIENT
SHOPPER**

www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

© 2016 www.whatzit.com
Distributed by Unirest USA

TAGA Sports is now on issuu.com/tagasports!

Check out the latest issue and back issues of TAGA Sports, the CNMI's first and premier sports magazine, on issuu.com/tagasports!

Now you won't have to miss a copy of TAGA Sports.

Visit issuu.com/tagasports to get your fix on all sports happenings in the CNMI!

**To inquire about ad rates or to place an ad,
call (670) 235-2440, 235-6397, 235-8747.**

Find today's solution in classified section

Spurs rout Grizzlies to sweep way to semifinals



MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—The San Antonio Spurs have swept their way into the Western Conference semifinals after an almost perfunctory, yet very physical test from the most injury-depleted team ever in the NBA playoffs.

Kawhi Leonard scored 21 points as the Spurs routed the Memphis Grizzlies 116-95 on Sunday, sweeping the best-of-seven first-round series.

"It wasn't a fair fight," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said of playing a team that set an NBA record with 28 Grizzlies playing this season. "Whoever was available came out and played, and they executed to the best of their ability. They played with a lot of heart and a lot of fortitude."

The Spurs finished off their ninth sweep of a postseason series in franchise history, their third against the Grizzlies. San Antonio also swept Memphis in the 2004 first round and the 2013 Western Conference finals.

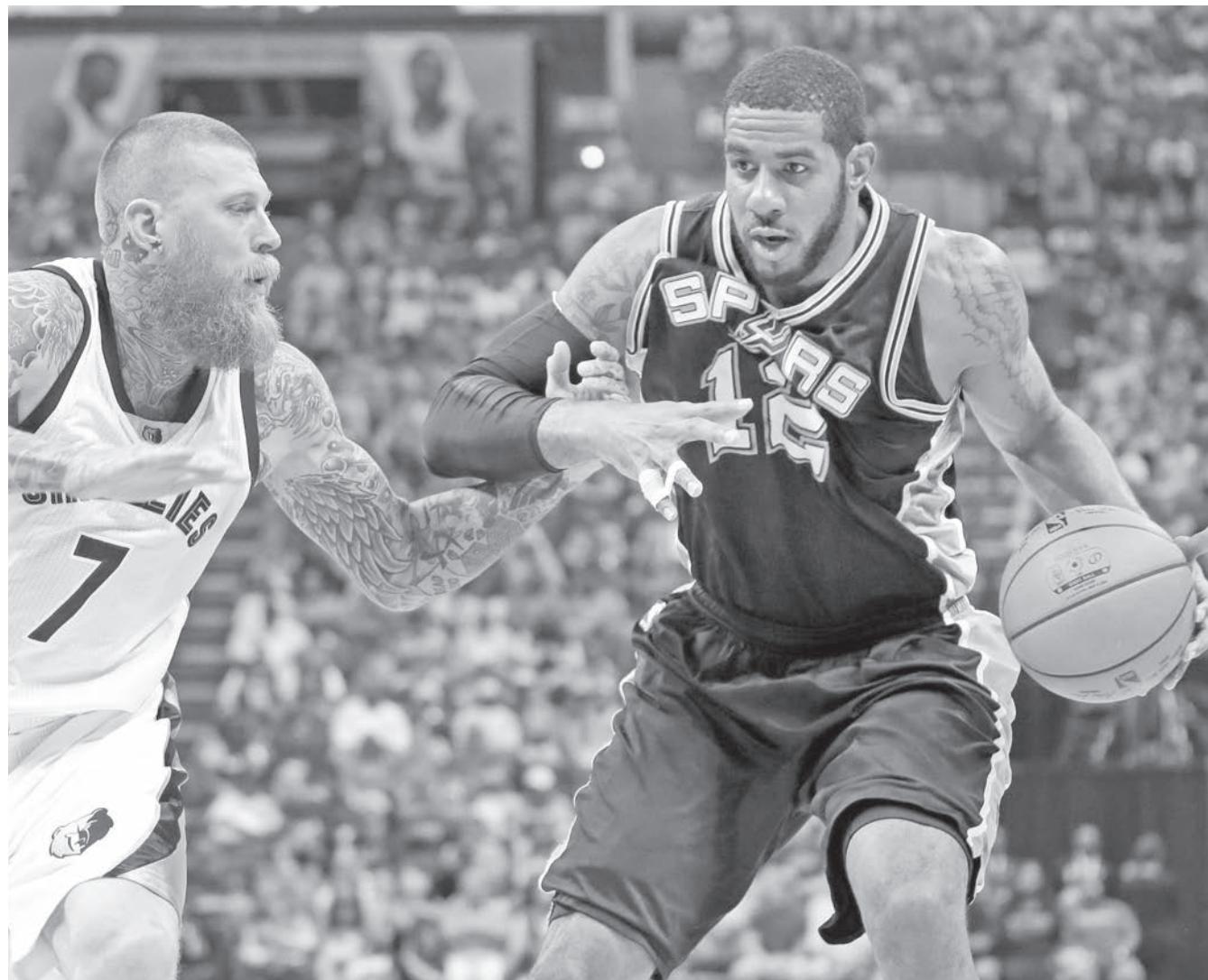
"They play very physical, so it's a good test for the next round," Spurs guard Tony Parker said.

The only thing that delayed the Spurs advancing was a power surge that knocked out the lights, stopping the game for about 20 minutes in the second quarter.

San Antonio now awaits the winner of Oklahoma City-Dallas, a best-of-seven series that the Thunder lead 3-1.

LaMarcus Aldridge scored 15 points and grabbed 10 rebounds for the Spurs. Parker finished with 16 points. David West had 11.

Lance Stephenson scored 26 points off the bench for



Memphis Grizzlies forward Chris Andersen (7) fouls San Antonio Spurs forward LaMarcus Aldridge (12) during the second half of Game 4 in a first-round NBA basketball playoff series Sunday, April 24, 2016, in Memphis, Tenn. AP

the second half, and Cleveland held on to finish off a four-game sweep of Detroit.

The Cavs advance to the second round to play either Atlanta or Boston.

LeBron James had 22 points for Cleveland, but it was Irving who made the biggest shots all night. His midcourt buzzer beater put the Cavs up 81-78 after the third quarter, and with Cleveland clinging to a one-point lead in the final minute, he calmly sank a 3-pointer from the right wing with 42 seconds remaining.

Detroit still had a chance at the end, but Reggie Jackson's wild shot at the buzzer was off the mark.

Celtics 104, Hawks 95, OT

In Boston, Isaiah Thomas scored 28 points, hitting a corner 3-pointer with 30 seconds left in overtime and then adding a pair of clinching free throws as Boston sent its first-round playoff series back to Atlanta tied two games apiece.

Paul Millsap scored 45 for the Hawks—a career playoff high and one off his all-time best—and added 13 rebounds.

Marcus Smart scored 20 points—including 11 straight for Boston in the fourth quarter—and Jonas Jerebko had 16 points and 10 rebounds.

Game 5 is Tuesday night in Atlanta.

Lakers fire Scott after two seasons

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Byron Scott will not return to coach the Los Angeles Lakers next season, the team announced late Sunday night.

Scott coached the Lakers for the two worst seasons in the 16-time NBA champion franchise's history, going 38-126. The Lakers are making another break from the Kobe Bryant era by firing the coach who shepherded the superstar guard's farewell season, but couldn't coax many wins out of an otherwise dismal roster.

Los Angeles finished with the NBA's second-worst record at 17-65 this season, losing four more games than in its previous franchise-worst season in 2014-15.

"We would like to thank Byron for his hard work, dedication and loyalty over the last two years, but have decided it is in the best interest

of the organization to make a change at this time," general manager Mitch Kupchak said in a statement.

Warriors 121, Rockets 94

In Houston, Klay Thompson scored 23 points and the Golden State Warriors set an NBA playoff record with 21 3-pointers to overcome another injury to Stephen Curry and beat the Houston Rockets on Sunday for a 3-1 series lead.

Curry returned after missing two games with a sprained right ankle, but did not play in

the second half after spraining his right knee.

He slid awkwardly to the court while defending on the last play before halftime and immediately grabbed his knee. He got up and looked to have trouble putting weight on it before jogging with a limp to the locker room. He came out with the team after halftime, but sat on the bench for most of the warmup time. After talking with coaches, he returned to the locker room.

Golden State was just fine without him thanks to 3-point shooting that led to a 41-point

third quarter. The Warriors bested the NBA record they shared for 3s in a playoff game when Brandon Rush made one from the top of the key with about 2 1/2 minutes left.

Golden State hosts Game 5 on Wednesday.

Dwight Howard led Houston with 19 points and 15 rebounds. James Harden had 18 points, 10 assists and seven steals.

Cavaliers 100, Pistons 98

In Auburn Hills, Kyrie Irving scored 20 of his 31 points in

"Guys that know me know I'm not happy with the way we played as a basketball team," Scott said last week. "I think we could have been a lot better if we had really honed in on some of the things we needed to hone in on early. But that's kind of the price you've got to pay with young guys, too. It takes some young guys a bit longer to develop, but the bottom line is the record, and that's what you judge guys by."

Scott also didn't seem to connect with the Lakers' young players. His old-school mentality generated little positive effect in Julius Randle, Jordan Clarkson or D'Angelo Russell, the second overall pick whose playing time was curiously limited by Scott early in the season.

Although the Lakers acknowledged that Bryant's season-long showcase took precedence over winning this season, Kupchak and owner Jim Buss still apparently expected more than Scott provided.

Scott is a veteran head coach with previous tenures at New Jersey, New Orleans

and Cleveland. He led the Nets to two NBA Finals in his first head job, and he won the NBA's Coach of the Year award with the Hornets in 2008.

Yahoo Sports first reported Scott's firing.

The Lakers waited to fire Scott while two top candidates for head coaching positions took other jobs. Tom Thibodeau landed in Minnesota, and Scott Brooks was hired by Washington.

Lakers fans have been intrigued for months by the prospect of hiring Luke Walton, the championship-winning Lakers forward who is an assistant coach on Steve Kerr's staff at Golden State. The 36-year-old Walton, who played nine seasons in Los Angeles, coached Golden State to a 39-4 start to the season while Kerr was sidelined by a back injury.

The Lakers' new coach will

inherit a young, patchwork roster with a core of intriguing talent. Russell, Randle and Clarkson are all solid players, and the Lakers will keep their high draft pick if they finish in the top three of the NBA draft lottery next month.

The Lakers also will have more than \$40 million in salary cap room to offer free agents, and Scott's absence could help there as well.

The once-glamorous franchise has been incredibly unsuccessful in attracting or keeping marquee free agents over the past four seasons, even losing Dwight Howard and Pau Gasol to other teams for relatively modest contracts. But the departures of Bryant and Scott with the installation of a credible head coach could prove more enticing to stars interested in the added benefits of playing in the Hollywood spotlight.

Nationals survive Twins in 16th, 6-5

WASHINGTON (AP)— Bryce Harper tied it with a pinch-hit home run in the ninth inning, pitcher Oliver Perez put down a bunt in the 15th that kept things going and Chris Heisey homered in the 16th to give the Washington Nationals a wild 6-5 win Sunday over the Minnesota Twins.

At 5 hours, 56 minutes, it was the longest regular-season game in Nationals' history. By far one of the craziest, too.

Harper was supposed to have a day off, but stepped up to lead off the ninth with Washington trailing 4-3 and connected for the first pinch-hit homer of his career.

The Nationals were down 5-4 in the 15th when Danny Espinosa drew a two-out walk and stole second. With no one else left to hit, Perez (1-0) batted for the first time since 2010 and bunted down the third base line. Catcher John Ryan Murphy picked up the ball but threw it wildly past first, allowing Espinosa to score.

Heisey then homered off Michael Tonkin (1-1) to complete a three-game sweep.

Pirates 12, Diamondbacks 10, 13 innings

In Phoenix, Arizona pitcher Shelby Miller played left field and chased after a go-ahead double by Pittsburgh's Sean Rodriguez in the 13th inning before striking out to end the game.

Miller went into the outfield after shortstop Nick Ahmed was ejected in the 12th. Miller became the first Diamondbacks pitcher to play a position—the previous major league pitcher to play the outfield since Colorado's Jason Gurka last Sept. 15, STATS said.

Paul Goldschmidt homered twice, including a tying, two-run shot in the Arizona ninth.

Cubs 9, Reds 0

In Cincinnati, Anthony Rizzo homered and drove in four runs, Jason Hammel pitched six sharp innings and Chicago routed Cincinnati.

The Cubs improved to 14-5 for the first time in 47 years.

Tommy La Stella homered and doubled twice and Jason Heyward had four hits and three RBI.

Hammel (3-0) allowed three hits. Alfredo Simon (0-2) gave up nine hits and eight runs in 2 2/3 innings.

Mets 3, Braves 2

In Atlanta, Jacob deGrom made a successful return to the mound after tending to his ill infant son and an injury, pitching New York to a three-game



AP Washington Nationals outfielder Matt den Dekker (21) makes a sliding catch on a fly ball by Minnesota Twins' Brian Dozier during the 13th inning of an interleague baseball game, Sunday, April 24, 2016, in Washington. The Nationals won, 6-5, in 16 innings.

in 5 2/3 innings.

Royals 8, Orioles 1

In Kansas City, Yordano Ventura settled down after a shaky first inning, Eric Hosmer and Alex Gordon homered and Kansas City beat Baltimore.

Ventura (2-0) allowed his lone run and two of his three hits in the first inning. He wound up going seven.

Mike Wright (1-2) allowed five runs in 6 1/3 innings.

Mariners 9, Angels 4

In Anaheim, Wade Miley overcame a shaky first inning that included a home by slumping Albert Pujols to post his first victory in a Seattle uniform.

Kyle Seager, Leonys Martin and Seth Smith hit home runs for the Mariners.

Pujols ended a career-worst 0-for-26 skid with his 563rd career homer, tying Reggie Jackson for 13th place all-time.

Miley (1-2) allowed four runs and six hits in 7 1/3 innings.

Indians 6, Tigers 3

sweep. Atlanta has lost five in a row.

Back in the rotation after healing from a sore right lat muscle and seeing his son recover from a health concern, deGrom (2-0) gave up one run and eight hits in 5 2/3 innings.

Jeurys Familia held on for his fifth save.

Dodgers 12, Rockies 10

In Denver, Chase Utley drove in the go-ahead run with a double during Los Angeles' five-run ninth to rally at Colorado.

Trailing 10-7, the Dodgers lit up Rockies closer Jake McGee (0-1).

Joe Blanton (2-1) earned the win by getting two outs in the eighth. Kenley Jansen struck out Trevor Story to pick up his ninth save.

Marlins 5, Giants 4

In San Francisco, J.T. Realmuto matched his career high with four hits, including a tiebreaking home run in the eighth inning as Miami avoided a three-game sweep.

Giancarlo Stanton also homered and reached base four times for the Marlins.

Realmuto homered off San Francisco reliever Josh Osich (0-1).

Kyle Barraclough (1-0) got the win and A.J. Ramos worked the ninth for his third save.

Cardinals 8, Padres 5

In San Diego, Jedd Gyorko homered, tripled and singled,

and rookie Aledmys Diaz had a homer among his three hits as St. Louis rallied.

Gyorko, traded from San Diego to the Cardinals in December, had two chances to complete the cycle but flied out and grounded out.

Padres reliever Kevin Quackenbush allowed consecutive homers to Gyorko and Diaz in the sixth to tie it. Brandon Maurer (0-1) gave up three runs in the eighth.

Brewers 8, Phillies 5

In Milwaukee, Scooter Gennett and Alex Presley homered in a six-run sixth inning, backing an encouraging outing

by struggling starter Wily Peralta as Milwaukee beat Philadelphia.

The Brewers also hit four doubles in the sixth, when they chased Phillies starter Jerad Eickhoff (1-3).

Peralta (1-3) allowed three earned runs and seven hits in six inning. The Brewers' opening day starter entered the game with an 8.35 ERA.

Closer Jeremy Jeffress threw a scoreless ninth for his sixth save.

Rays 8, Yankees 1

In New York, Steven Souza Jr. homered twice on his 27th birthday and Tampa Bay went

to essentially redshirt a rookie quarterback next season, allowing him to learn and grow inside coach Doug Pederson's offense. That player will likely be North Dakota State's Carson Wentz, who is expected to be on the board for the Eagles at No. 2 overall. The Eagles carrying three quarterbacks—Bradford, Chase Daniel and Wentz—appears to be a requirement to secure a patient growth plan for Wentz. Should Bradford go down with injury next season, the Eagles would need a capable backup as an insurance policy against Wentz being forced into a starting role before he's ready. That's why the design calls for both veterans to remain.

While Philadelphia could still deal Bradford during the draft or ensuing offseason, the sources said Bradford is prepared to prove to the Eagles that he's a franchise quarterback. He'll embrace the challenge if he remains in Philadelphia, sources said, despite being upset that the team surrendered draft assets that could have helped him.

As for the Eagles' current quarterback designs, a league source said the team is ready

steps to disrupt that, sources said. That's not a surprising development, considering he's set to earn \$22 million guaranteed no matter what happens next season. Indeed, an argument could be made that Bradford is in an ideal situation. Not only does he have another highly paid season to prove to NFL teams that he remains an attractive commodity, but a strong season could turn him into an attractive trade chip in the 2017 offseason. Should that happen, it's likely any team looking to acquire Bradford would want to negotiate a long-term extension beforehand.

It's also not out of the realm of possibility that Bradford plays well enough to

Sources: Bradford won't ask Eagles for trade



PHILADELPHIA

— Sam Bradford has not asked for a trade from the Philadelphia Eagles and has no plans to do so, two sources close to the quarterback said.

While Philadelphia could still deal Bradford during the draft or ensuing offseason, the sources said Bradford is prepared to prove to the Eagles that he's a franchise quarterback. He'll embrace the challenge if he remains in Philadelphia, sources said, despite being upset that the team surrendered draft assets that could have helped him.

As for the Eagles' current

convince the Eagles to keep him for the length of his full two-year contract. While it's assumed Philadelphia will want to turn to Wentz in 2017, the Eagles will surely keep their options open if Bradford suddenly excels and creates a situation similar to the San Diego Chargers in 2004. That year, Drew Brees broke through as an elite player for the Chargers, despite the team having acquired Philip Rivers, the fourth overall pick in that season's draft. While most assumed Brees' 2004 season would be his last with the Chargers, the team ended up using the franchise tag to keep him an additional year, forcing Rivers to spend an additional season waiting in the wings.

Saralu moves on top of batting leaderboard

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roelyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The GSM Brewers' Saralu is now the batting leader in the 2016 Saipan Baseball League.

Saralu, after the Brewers' win over Titanium last Friday, earned a batting average of .588 off his 10-for-17 performance at the plate to dislodge the Falcons' Giovanni Mira from the top spot. Mira hit 7-for-13 for

an average of .538, while the Chalan Kanoa Bears' Jose Lizama and Titanium's Jhace Palacios are the two other players who average at least .500 and are tied for third to fourth place in the batting chart. Lizama in four games was 8-for-16, while Palacios went 6-for-12. The Blue Jays' Davie Matagolai rounded out the Top 3 after logging a batting average of .467 from his 7-for-15 clip.

FERRER

From Page 28

Meanwhile, siblings Coume and Conatsu Kaga and Isabel Heras were the champions in the other girls singles events in the 2016 CNMI Junior Tennis Championships.

Coume won the battle of the Top 2 seeds in the girls U14 finale after slipping past the No. 1 seed Maria Gregoire in three sets. The second-ranked Coume dropped the closely fought first set, 5-7, before sweeping the last two, 6-2, 6-3, to complete the come-from-behind victory.

The younger Kaga made it to the finals after eliminating Erika Tuttle, 6-4, 7-6 (6), while Gregoire eased past Riko Ojima in the other semis pairing, 6-1, 6-2. Tuttle rounded out the Top 3 following a 6-0, 6-0 triumph over Ojima.

In the girls U16 singles, there was also a collision between the Top 2-ranked players in the draw with Conatsu surprising the No.1 pick Asia

Raulerson in the finals, 6-1, 6-2. Before her title win over Raulerson, Conatsu came from a three-set victory in the semis against Tuttle, 6-7 (5), 6-1, 6-4. Raulerson, on the other hand, foiled a "sister act" finale after ousting Coume in the other semis match, 7-5, 7-5. Tuttle went on to take her second third place medal in the tournament after beating Coume in the consolation game, 6-2, 6-2.

In the girls U18 singles, Heras avoided the upset axe of Raulerson after prevailing in their three-set title match. Heras waltzed past Raulerson in the opening set, 6-2, but failed to finish off her much younger foe when the latter eked out a 7-5 win in the second. In the deciding third set, Heras came out on a mission, posting an emphatic 6-0 victory to clinch the division crown.

Tania Tan joined Heras and Raulerson to the podium after dominating Mimi Sakano in the battle for third place, 6-1, 6-1.

TAN

From Page 28

Jr. made the lone goal for the wireless Shirley's.

Esalan scored the first goal for Tan Holdings, while Canape also hit the board in the first half. Borja then kicked off Tan Holdings' offense in the second frame, while Esalan got two straight goals midway in that period before Waldo managed to join the spree. Esalan had another back-to-back conversion late in the game, while Canape closed out for Tan Holdings. Shirley's only goal in the lopsided match was recorded in the second half.

With Tan Holdings collecting nine goals in its last game, the newly crowned division champion brought its total to 52, the second most scored in the boys U14 contest this season. Tan Holdings allowed the least goals (20).

MP United had the most goals in 10 games with 57, but it failed to finish the season on a winning note as Kanoa beat the former, 2-1, in the final match last week.

Kirt Andon lifted Kanoa to the win after registering both goals, while Ye Seong Cho tallied the lone goal for MP United. Cho made it to the board first with his shot in the 45th to give MP United a shaky lead. Nine minutes later Andon equalized for Kanoa, which eventually grabbed the win when Andon hit his target anew in the 62nd.

With Kanoa tallying two more goals, its total reached 42 and the team gave up the second least goals (24). MP United allowed 27.

Meanwhile, Matansa matched Paire's record after posting a 5-3 win in the second game last Saturday.

Justin Charles Achas starred in Matansa's final push after earning four goals. Matansa drew the other goal from Iverson Santos, who lit up the board five minutes after Achas got his first in the 14th.

Robbie Schorr, Raffy Lee, and Kaden Church logged one goal apiece for Paire, which still had more goals than Matansa, 46-35.



JOSHUA

From Page 28

Rolando Balte, and Rey Darag chipped in 8 apiece, Brendon Perez added 7, and Kym Cheng and Allan Chavez tallied 6 and 5, respectively.

Eight Gideon players made it to the board in the first half, while only four scored for Daniel. Balte, Demapan, and De Leon teamed up for more than half of Gideon's output in the opening 20 minutes of play to lift their team to a 31-26 halftime lead.

Gideon then stretched their advantage to as much as 16 in the first half as it continued to spread the wealth, while only Marlo Ibanez and Lawrence Borja canned more than one field goal for Daniel. Demapan, who had 6 markers in the first half, added 8 more, while Cheng tallied all his 6 markers in the last frame and Perez and Darag had 5 each to hand Gideon the double-digit winning margin.

Ibanez paced Daniel's losing cause after registering 15 markers, while Jonathan Ibaian posted 13.

In the second game, Joshua controlled its game against Isaiah midway in the first half and hung tough in the second to take the 8-point victory.

Joshua was just ahead by 2, 21-19, with about 10 minutes gone by in the first half when the quartet of Mark Puno, Jay Nunag, Alain Nunez, and Alvin Daluyen joined forces in extending the lead to 15 at the break, 40-25.

Puno sizzled for 13 points in the first half, while Nunag logged 9, and Nunez and Daluyen had 5 apiece. Noel Puno and Abbi Sandig were the other scorers for Joshua in the first half,

making 4 and 2, respectively.

As for Isaiah's side, Oliver Gragasin and Michael Manalang combined for 17 in the first half, but these were not enough to boost the team's chances of winning its first game. Isaiah then tried to mount a comeback in the second half with its good 3-point shooting and the arrival of Ramsa Tenepere, but fell short as Nunag, Nunez, and Mart Puno hit timely baskets to half their foes' rally.

Puno ended up leading all scorers with his 18 markers, while Nunag and Nunez also finished in twin digits with 15 and 11, respectively. Gragasin had 17 to pace Isaiah, which drew 16 from Manalang.

Meanwhile, four other teams are competing in this year's Genesis Cup and they will have their season debuts this Sunday. Defending champion Caleb will face Samuel at 2:15pm, while Jeremiah and Ezekiel will square off in the second game at 4:15pm.

First Game

Gideon 61 — Demapan 14,
De Leon 8, Balte 8, Darag 8,
Perez 7, Cheng 6, Chavez 5,
Gatdula 4, Sacdal 3.

Daniel 50 — Ibanez 15,
Ibajan 13, Borja 8, Guevarra
7, Rabago 3, Calib 2, Abe 2.

Scoring by halves: 31-26,
61-50.

Second Game

Joshua 62 — M. Puno 18,
Nunag 15, Nunez 11, N. Puno
8, Daluyen 6, Sandig 4.

Isaiah 54 — Gragasin 17,
Manalang 16, Tenepere 7, Cabaobas 4, Huddleston 4, David
4, Santos 2.

Scoring by halves: 40-25,
62-54.

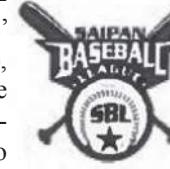
ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Nokki Saralu warms up before going to home plate during their game against the Titanium in the 2016 Saipan Baseball League last Thursday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield. Saralu is ahead of 14 others in the batting leaderboard after averaging .588.

nings and has yet to allow a single earned run. The Brewers' Lancaster Secharmidal is in second place with his 1.13 ERA, while the Aces' Michael Muna Jr. is ranked third with his 1.20 ERA.

Also making it to the pitching leaderboard, which is based on 9 or more innings pitched, are the North Starz's Jared Camacho (1.29), the Bears' Jeffrey Lizama (1.80), the Blue Jays' Keola Camacho (1.80), the Yankees' Peter Lieto (1.86), the Bears' Jose Lizama Jr. (2.25), the Falcons' Frankie Lieto (2.84), and VJ King (3.00).

In other statistics, Lancaster Secharmidal has the most strikeouts so far with 21, leading the 18 of Peter Lieto, Muna, Lizama Jr. and Joe Palacios. In runs, Peyton Lizama is ahead with 8, while Jose Lizama Jr. has the most doubles (3) and RBIs (6). The Brewers' Anthony Tenorio is on top of the triples race with his 3.



TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

LOCAL SCORES

SAIPAN BASEBALL LEAGUE Team Standings (As of April 22, 2016)

Teams	W	L	PCT
CK Bears	4	0	1.000
Titanium	3	1	.750
GSM Brewers	3	1	.750
Falcons	3	1	.750
Yankees	2	2	.500
North Starz	1	3	.250
Aces	0	4	.000
Blue Jays	0	4	.000

Batting Leaders

(Based on 12 or more times at bat)

Players	Team	AB	Hit	BA
Nokki Saralu	Brewers	17	10	.588
Giovanni Mira	Falcons	13	7	.538
Jose Lizama	CK Bears	16	8	.500
Jhace Palacios	Titanium	12	6	.500
Davie Matagolai	Blue Jays	15	7	.467
Jun Rabauliman	Titanium	13	6	.462
John Tudela	Aces	13	6	.462
Roke Tenorio	North Starz	16	7	.438
Patrick Tenorio	Titanium	14	6	.429
Peyton Lizama	CK Bears	14	6	.429
Lamarc Iguel	Aces	19	8	.421
Verlance Secharmidal	Aces	17	7	.412
Ben Jones Jr.	Aces	17	7	.412
AJ Evangelista	Falcons	15	6	.400
Anthony Tenorio	Brewers	18	7	.389

Runs

Players	Team	AB	Hit	BA
Peyton Lizama	CK Bears	8	7	.875
Juan Iguel	Aces	8	7	.875
Jose Lizama Jr.	CK Bears	7	6	.857
Ian Norita	Falcons	7	6	.857

Triples

Players	Team	AB	Hit	BA
Anthony Tenorio	Brewers	3	2	.667
Lamarc Iguel	Aces	2	2	1.000

RBIs

Players	Team	AB	Hit	BA
Jose Lizama Jr.	CK Bears	6	5	.833
John Tudela	Aces	6	5	.833
Nokki Saralu	Brewers	5	4	.800

Doubles

Players	Team	AB	Hit	BA
Jose Lizama Jr.	CK Bears	3	2	.667

Pitching Leaders

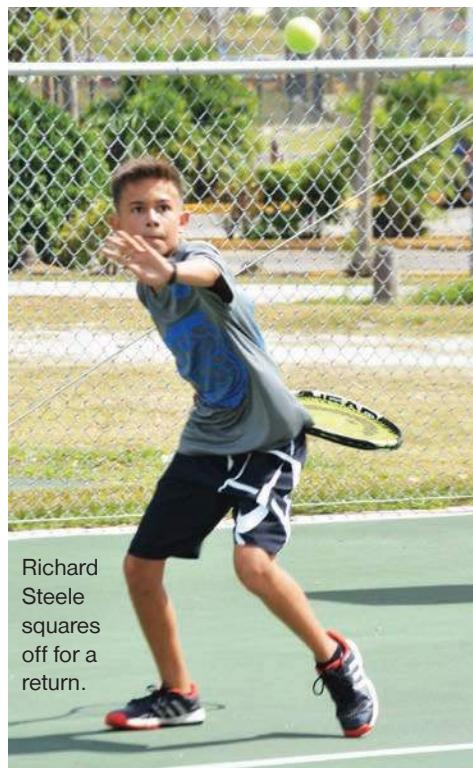
(Based on 9 or more innings pitched)

2016 CNMI Junior Tennis Championships

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Tania Tan makes a baseline return to Asia Raulerson during their girls U18 singles game in the 2016 CNMI Junior Tennis Championships at the American Memorial Tennis courts.



Richard Steele squares off for a return.



Michael Ren gets ready to serve during his and Tony Kim's boys U18 double game against Steven Goodwin and Vincent Tudela.



Tony Kim, left, makes a shot, while Michael Ren looks on.



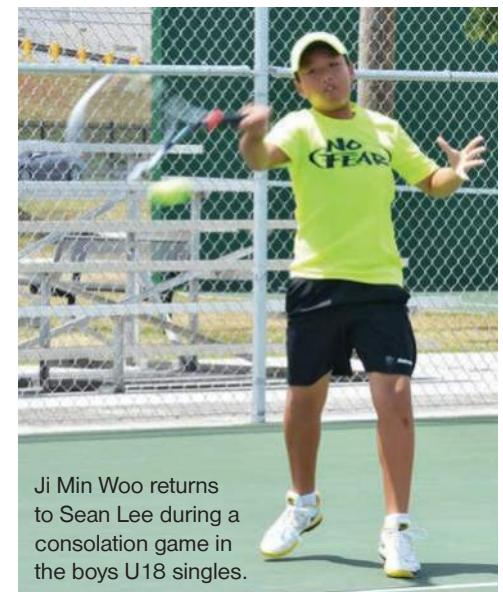
Ken Song serves, while teammate Robbie Schorr waits for the next play near the net.



Seung Won Lee, left, serves, while teammate Andy Chung looks on during their boys U12 doubles match against Rintaro Miyawaki and Richard Steele.



Rintaro Miyawaki serves to Seung Jin Paik during their boys U12 singles title match.



Ji Min Woo returns to Sean Lee during a consolation game in the boys U18 singles.



Spurs rout
Grizzlies to
sweep way
to semifinals
PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune Sports

Nationals
survive Twins
in 16th, 6-5
PAGE 25



28 TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2016

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Tan Holdings claims boys U14 title



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Two Tan Holdings FC players stay close on defense against a Shirley's FC member during their boys U14 game in the NMIFA youth league last Saturday at the Koblerville Elementary School Field.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Tan Holdings Football Club won the boys U14 championship in the 2016 NMIFA Youth Spring League after routing Shirley's FC, 9-1, in the final week of competition in the division last Saturday at the Koblerville Elementary School Field.



Tan Holdings finished the two-round robin regular season with an 8-0-2 win-draw, placing ahead of MP United (7-0-3), Kanoa (7-0-3), Paire (4-0-6), Matansa (4-0-6), and Shirley's (0-0-10). The division champion is composed of Aloy Zeus Angeles, Thaipi Austria, Steven Balakrishna, Kirro Batino,

Angelo Bergancia, Ichiro and Taka Borja, Ekeziel and John Guiller Canape, John Paul Cruz, John Mark Esalan, Alan Matutino, Joshua Menendez, Terence Montenegro, Floyd

Muna, John Michael Rojas, and Joshua Waldo and is coached by Ryan Relucio.

Esalan led Tan Holdings' title-clinching win as he knocked in five

goals. John Guiller Canape chipped in two, while Ichiro Borja and Waldo contributed one each. Gabriel Arkoh

See TAN on Page 26



Joshua, Gideon win season debuts

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Gideon and Daniel got off to a good start after prevailing in the opening games in the 5th Genesis Cup Christian Churches Inter-Color Basketball League last Sunday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Gideon outclassed Daniel, 61-50, in the curtain-raiser, while Joshua topped Isaiah, 62-54, in the second match.

Bradley Demapan led Gideon's season-debut win as he scored a team-high 14 points. He drew enough support from his teammates, as six other Gideon players contributed at least 5 points apiece. Greg De Leon,

See JOSHUA on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Joshua's Alain Nunez is fouled by Isaiah's Mike Manalang, third right, during the first half of their game in the Genesis Cup last Sunday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Ferrer stuns
ranked players

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

JC Ferrer pulled off two upsets in the 2016 CNMI Junior Tennis Championships to take her first U10 singles championship.

Ferrer first stunned the top-ranked Anika Camacho in the semifinals, 7-5, and then downed the second-seeded Thaileena Raulerson in the finals, 6-3, to rule the five-player division. Ferrer, who finished third in her first two tournaments for 2015-2016 before ending her title drought in the last local competition this season, earlier dominated Helen Kim, 6-2, to set up a semis date against Camacho.

Camacho, who topped the U10 singles in both the Tan Holdings and Coconut Classic tournaments, settled for the third place honors last week after defeating Yejin Son, 6-2.

See FERRER on Page 26



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
JC Ferrer poses for a photo after winning against Thaileena Raulerson in the girls U10 singles finals in the 2016 CNMI Junior Tennis Championships last Sunday at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.